

# IRISES



The Bulletin of the American Iris Society

Fall 2014

***2014 Award Winners!***



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(see page 61 for section membership information)

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## **On the Front Cover**

2014 Dykes Medal Winner  
'Dividing Line' Charles Bunnell, MTB  
Photo by Terry Aitken

## **On the Back Cover**

2014 Caparne-Welch Medal Winner  
'Icon' Keith Keppel, MDB  
Photo by Terry Aitken

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The American Iris Society is a non-profit institution incorporated February 2, 1927, in the County of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania. By the terms of the Charter, the Corporation has no stockholders and exists for the sole purpose of promoting the culture and improvement of the Iris.

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## 2014 John C Wister Medal Winners

'Magical' (Joe Ghio 2008)  
by J Graham (facing page top)

'Montmartre' (Keith Keppel 2008)  
by T. Aitken (facing page bottom)

'Black Magic Woman' (Richard Tasco 2008)  
by Tasco (right)



## 2014 Fred and Barbara Walther Cup

'Holiday in Mexico' (Riley Probst 2012)  
MTB (below)





Staying current with iris activities and affairs is challenging because of our wide array of iris classifications, hybridizers and sectional interests. AIS tries mightily via our various communication media such as the AIS Bulletin, *IRISES*, our newsletter, *News & Views*, our web site, [www.irises.org](http://www.irises.org), the iris encyclopedia, <http://wiki.irises.org>, Facebook, and our blog, *The World of Irises*.

Congratulations to Public Relations and Marketing Chairman Bob Pries on the fifth anniversary of the iris encyclopedia. With his over 600 docents from around the world entering iris information and pictures, this wonderful resource has over 60,000 of the estimated 80,000 registered irises in the database. It includes iris history from the early days of AIS (founded in New York in 1920), hybridizer profiles and much more. With the creation of our new Novelty Iris Society section, the wiki has now loaded the chapter on Novelty irises from the seminal book *The World of Irises*, 1978, which is the "bible" in our iris world. Growth is up thirty-six percent from last year. Kudos to Bob are well-deserved as the wiki site is being visited thousands of times daily by the public throughout the world.

Congratulations to hybridizer Chuck Bunnell of Indiana for his MTB iris 'Dividing Line' winning the 2014 Dykes Memorial Medal. This miniature tall bearded iris is the first in its classification to win the ultimate medal, something even the dependable 'Bumblebee Deelite' (first runner-up three times) was unable to do. 'Dividing Line' is very deserving as it grows well throughout the U.S. and Canada and the rest of the temperate world. 'Dividing Line' joins the other three non-TBs to win: 'Elmohr' 1945 AB; 'Brown Lasso' 1981 BB; and, 'Starwoman' 2008 IB. Congratulations also to all the other special medal winners as well as the AM and HM award winners. The quality of new irises is exceptional.

It wasn't until bus prizes were drawn at the 2014 Dallas convention that I became aware that one of our commercial venues, Argyle Acres, had been sold in 2011 and all stock moved to Wautoma, Wisconsin. Located on fifteen acres of land in central Wisconsin, the home of Argyle Acres is now Willow Creek Farm & Gardens owned by Larry & Heidi Buntrock and Rick & Holly Putskey. I hope to meet them soon and wish for them to become active in AIS and Region 8. Mike Sutton moved Sutton Gardens from Porterville, California to Star, Idaho last year so they had limited stock available this year. New and detailed display gardens are under development with an anticipated opening in the spring of 2015. With much of my time this late summer spent digging, labeling and preparing for iris sales, I devoted time searching hybridizer websites. I was most impressed by what is now available. The new Schreiner's site was especially informative and easy to navigate.

Our Awards Chairman, Gerry Snyder, proposed two changes to the AIS Awards process this year. Here is each motion as approved by the AIS board of directors via e-mail vote:

1. *"In any given year, when there are only two eligible cultivars for any Award of Merit or Honorable Mention, both cultivars shall be placed on the ballot, with one vote for each judge, resulting in one winner in that class."* Passed.
2. *"In cases where there would otherwise be fewer than three irises on the ballot for the Dykes Medal in any iris class, the most recent earlier winner(s) of the Special Medal in that class that have been dropped from the Dykes Medal ballot shall be added back to the ballot in order to bring the number of candidates up to three."* Passed.

As I write this column in August, The American Iris Society's first-ever digital iris show is being judged. It is another brain-child of Bob Pries and is on the the wiki at <http://wiki.irises.org/bin/view/Main/VirtualIrisShow>. For each species or variety submitted, three photos were required: one of a flower from top down, one of the flower from the side, and one of the flower spike. A fourth photo of the clump was also allowed. Photos were accepted by section, in three categories: species, hybrids and seedlings. The results should be interesting as the show was open to the world. 🌸

*Jim Morris*

Photo of Jim by Jean Morris. Taken during the 2014 Missouri Botanical Garden dig.





Did you notice changes in the page order in this edition of *IRISES*? Don't miss the article on the last page. There is also a new section that puts the spotlight on irisarians' achievements and other milestones in our iris world. Look for stories about hybridizers, current and classic. A four-part series about the parts of an iris by Ken Walker starts in this issue. In a special article, Jim Morris shares the best part of his job as president of the AIS—notifying the winners of the annual AIS awards. You'll find pictures of the winners; and, if that isn't enough, the winning photos from this year's photo contest are in this issue too. How much do you know about irises in Tasmania? It is spring there.



You will see below that the summer issue had a poor representation of a beautiful iris on the back cover. Please, if your iris is an award winner, send me your image to use in *IRISES*. I rely on several sources for photos. However, an image approved by the hybridizer is always my first choice. All authors provide their own photos or approve the photos I use before publication of their article.

It will soon be time to sit back while Mother Nature goes into winter mode. We in the west hope the prediction for a rainy winter is right. Time will tell. While gardening is not on the agenda, consider sharing some of your iris wisdom with fellow irisarians. Perhaps you will be inspired by one of the articles in this issue to tell your story. There are many AIS members who should be in the spotlight; describing their achievements can inspire others and give them the recognition they deserve. Tell me about them.

Meanwhile, it is time to carve pumpkins and get ready for the trick-or-treaters. You don't hand out iris rhizomes to the trick-or-treat crowd, do you? I didn't think so. Next there's turkey with all the trimmings and pumpkin pie. All the holiday preparations are just around the corner. Although it is early, (I'm considering how to get the winter issue out in January without spending the month of December in front of my computer.) I want to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy holiday season filled with good cheer, friends and family. ❀

Kathleen Sonntag  
Editor

*"Instructions for living a life: Pay attention. Be astonished. Tell about it." Mary Oliver, Poet*

## Errata

On the inside front cover of the summer issue, the caption does not match the irises at the top. 'Bahama Blues' is pale peach with a blue beard. The Pyburn seedling is blue.

Although it was spelled correctly elsewhere in the summer issue, 'Dollie and Me' was misspelled on the inside back cover.

On page 14, the photo of *I. Aphylla* was by J. Pirogov whose name was misspelled.

The photo of 'Dorothy Devenport' on page 46 is actually by Jim Morris.

The series numbering still was not correct for the summer issue. This issue is correctly numbered 375.

The photo of 'Delirium' on the left was sent to me by Terry Aitken. He noticed that the image on the back cover of the summer issue did not capture the colors of the iris. Now you know what 'Delirium' really looks like. My apologies to Marky Smith.

Thank you for your attention to detail. KS



Deadlines for receiving materials are February 1 (Spring Issue), May 1 (Summer Issue), August 1 (Fall Issue), and November 1 (Winter Issue). All images must be submitted electronically in a minimum 300 dpi resolution for publication. Failure to provide quality images at time of submission may result in those images not being published. Manuscripts should be submitted via email in MS Word format without excess formatting and nonstandard fonts. The editor reserves the right to schedule submissions for the appropriate issue regardless of the date of submission.



# Spotlight

## Edna Claunch Awarded the 2014 GCA Medal

The Garden Club of America (GCA) awarded Dr. Edna Claunch from Rochester, NY its Amy Angell Collier Montague Medal on May 9, 2014 for her leadership efforts in “*managing the hybridization of the Louisiana Iris, offered as gift and tribute to Rochester’s sister city, Hamamatsu, Japan.*” The medal for Outstanding Civic Achievement was awarded at the GCA 101st annual meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana. Edna is well-known for her efforts in advancing Louisiana irises for the Pacific Flora 2004 Project and the resulting gardens in Japan and Highland Park in Rochester, New York.

The citation reads “...her legacy is the hybrids of our native gem, the Louisiana iris, blooming in international gardens of friendship and perennial gift to the world.”

The Japanese irises depicted with the yatsuhashi bridge section are representation of the three acres of Japanese irises viewed from a yatsuhashi bridge in Hamamatsu’s Flower Park. They were my inspiration for the Pacific Flora 2004 project. The fan was especially made as a gift from Mayor Kitawaki for the formal presentation.

The award came to me because of the unselfish and generous support of Society for Louisiana Irises and American Iris Society members.

More information is available in *Fleur de Lis*, The Journal of the Society of Louisiana Irises. ❀

Photo and text from Edna Claunch and *Fleur de Lis*



## The Median Iris Society 2014 Bennett Jones Award

At the April 2014 AIS National Convention in Dallas, Texas, **Lynn Markham** received the 2014 Bennett Jones Award from the Median Iris Society. The award is given to an iris hybridizer who has made noteworthy contributions to the breeding of Median irises.



Lynn Markham has been breeding irises, with an emphasis on median irises and particular concentration on border bearded (BB) irises, since the 1960s. She may well be the only hybridizer extant who has true, consistent BB breeding lines. Her pertinacity for balance and proportion in BBs has been the driving force in moving the BB class forward from the old days of “small talls” and “TB runts.” She and her Median Iris Society Border Bearded standards committee devised the current version of the BB class standard in 2000 for the AIS Judges’ Handbook, and she has purposely hybridized BBs with those standards in mind. Congratulations Lynn!

For more information on Lynn see the Fall 2014 issue of *The Medianite*. ❀ Dave Miller

Photo by Stephanie Markham



‘Renee Fleming’ is one of Heather Pryor’s special irises for the Pacific Flora 2004 Project. Boehm created a porcelain piece from photos of this iris at the request of Renee and a jeweler in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Photo by Heather Pryor.



*Send announcements to the AIS editor: regional awards, outstanding contributions to the iris world, accomplishments deserving notice by AIS members.*



## Happy Birthday AIS Iris Encyclopeida!

The wiki is a rambunctious five year old. There is evidence that more people now seek their iris information from our wiki. Within the last year, use has grown thirty-six percent and it continues to grow. People from the whole world contribute to the wiki and use it. It should be a source of pride for AIS to be providing this service.

In 1920 John Wister, president of the new AIS, wrote of creating an AIS library. He wrote at length about what it should contain and hoped that it would be a traveling library, so that many could look into it. How could he have guessed that we now bring large parts of the AIS library to the entire world via the wiki.

The early AIS also provided paid subscriptions to *The Flower Grower* for all its members. In turn, *The Flower Grower* published many articles on *Iris* and the American Iris Society, each issue serving as the Society's monthly newsletter in addition to the AIS Bulletin. Today we have the monthly E-newsletter, *News & Notes*. The hot new idea for non-profits today is partnering. *The Flower Grower* also served as a monthly forum for the Gladiolus Society and the Rose Society. It is ironic that the AIS partnered from its beginnings. I think this is a lesson in what can be accomplished when we work together.

The more than 650 contributors to the Encyclopedia can be proud of what they are achieving. We invite everyone to help. It will not be long before the encyclopedia will be celebrating 10 years—the same year that the AIS is one hundred years old. Think about how you want the future to look and help us record it on the wiki! 🌸 Robert Pries

## Hutchinson Iris Club 65th Anniversary



From left: Norva Snay, Betty Hill, Pat Bass. photo by D Crose

Hutchinson Iris Club (Region 18) of Hutchinson, Kansas celebrated their sixty-fifth anniversary in 2014. At the celebration in March, three members—Pat Bass, Betty Hill and Norva Snay—were honored for fifty years of membership. They are pictured below in front of the "Queen's Court" at the 2014 iris show. Best of Show was 'Elegant Girl' shown by Betty Hill; best design was given to Pat Bass. They had each given much to their club through the years and were given a framed collection of iris names with a dime sealed inside. That was because fifty years ago they bought their first irises for a dime a piece! 🌸 Extract from the article by Debra Crose in Region 18 *Bulletin*, Fall 2014



## Why, When and Where I Became Interested in Irises

By Colin Campbell, Age 15

*My iris shoots are just starting to brave their way out of the soil into the cold winter air. Looking at the new leaves fills me with eager anticipation for the spring. I can't wait to go out into my gardens and look on in wonder at each blossom as it unfurls – to smell anew their heavenly fragrances, or sit contentedly on my new garden bench and be filled with peace and joy. I love the feel of the wind on my back and sunlight overhead and the fresh, warm soil bursting with new life after the dreariness of midwinter. I can't help but praise God as I soak in his beautiful creation in my iris garden. But at one time I didn't even know what an iris was. How did I become so fascinated in irises that I grow over 300 varieties and have 1000 seeds from hybridizing in the refrigerator and 1500 seedlings waiting to be transplanted into the garden?*

*Moving to the country at eight years old heightened my already growing love of nature. As I identified wild flowers and visited my neighbor's greenhouse, I knew that I wanted to plant my own flower garden. Friends in the city and my great aunt each gave my family an iris as a present to grow on our new property. When those irises bloomed the next spring I was intrigued by their rich colors and graceful blossoms—one a ruffled soft lavender-blue with deeper color in the center, the other an old-fashioned but lovely white and rose plicata. Soon I was buried in catalogs, choosing the perfect plants for my new garden. And I knew that it had to have some irises in it.*

*The boxes started to arrive. I eagerly planted a collection of reblooming irises and watched with delight as they grew and bloomed. I brought huge bouquets of my new iris flowers inside so that I could enjoy them throughout the day. I wanted to learn as much about irises as I could and had plans for more orders. My parents surprised me with two beautiful books about irises, one focused on growing the plants, the other filled with stunning photographs of hundreds of different varieties. I read each page ecstatically, learning about the different types of iris and the growing conditions they prefer. I was especially interested in how breeders hybridized new plants. I wanted to learn to do this too, but it seemed that most of the hybridizers lived far away. I started praying to meet a hybridizer who lived near me. After a few unsuccessful attempts to hybridize, I found Don and Ginny Spoon who wanted to teach me. I learned to hybridize correctly and soon was inundated with seedpods. I became even more interested in rebloomers and made this trait a hybridizing goal. This year those first seeds that I planted should bloom—I can't wait to see them bloom!*

## Why, When and Where I Became Interested in Irises

Haley Cannavan, Age 8

*Thanks to Jean (Morris) and the Iris Society I am learning a lot about irises and flower arranging. This is something I enjoy and have since I was a little girl. My grandma has a yard full of flowers and always has taught me about them and let me help to take care of them by watering them when I am at her house. Learning about the Iris and all the parts like the rhizomes, stalk and blooms is defiantly been very interesting to me.*

*Last fall my American Heritage Girls Troop was invited to Jean Morris's house to have a tour of her garden; this is when I really got to know and learn about Irises. She showed us her beautiful garden full of Irises. I was amazed that there were so many colors and types of Irises, I had no idea. Jean told us we would be planting bearded irises. She then pointed out numerous irises, some were small and some were tall. Many of them had funny and different names, which made us all laugh!*

*Jean also taught us about planting Iris rhizomes and the importance of sunshine and water to help them grow. My favorite part of learning about Irises is when I got to plant my own Iris at a troop meeting. We also went to the Sparrow's Nest and panted a small iris garden there for the woman and children that live there. It was a good feeling to share the beauty of the irises with others so they too can enjoy them. I am looking forward to seeing my own iris bloom in April and displayed in an iris show this Spring.*

*Also, when we were at Jean's house she showed us some bearded Irises that she has just brought back from a show they were in. We were able to smell their sweet scent and feel their soft leaves. She then taught us the different parts of an Iris, such as the stalk, the leaves and the rhizomes. When we planted the our own rhizomes Jean also taught us what types of soil the irises need to live and we even got to pick out our own rhizomes.*

*I am really looking forward to our upcoming meetings with Jean will we will make educationally and information posters about Irises to share with others. We also are going to be decorating our pots to enter into an Iris show. I am really glad my leader got us involved with the iris society I have always liked flowers and hope to make my own garden this summer.*



# Youth Views

BY CHERYL DEATON, CALIFORNIA

## Cosgrove Nominations Needed

Once again it is time for all AIS adults to nominate deserving AIS youth members who have made a meaningful contribution to the American Iris Society. There are only two rules that you need to follow.

1. Only AIS Youth members may be nominated for the award.
2. Only AIS members may nominate an AIS Youth member for this award.

Past winners have been student judges, have held office in their local clubs, have participated in shows and sales, have visited gardens locally and regionally, and have promoted the American Iris Society to the public. I know you have met one of these deserving young people, perhaps at your club meeting, or at a sale; or, maybe you judged one of their arrangements at a local show.

Candidates for the Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award for Youth Achievement (CCMYA) should meet at least some of the following guidelines:

- \* Grow an iris garden that contains various iris classes
- \* Help local clubs through participation in a committee or activities
- \* Sign up new AIS members
- \* Experiment with irises
- \* Demonstrate leadership skills
- \* Study to become an AIS judge
- \* Promote irises and/or the American Iris Society to others
- \* Visit local iris gardens during bloomtime
- \* Attend regional/national tours
- \* Actively hybridize irises
- \* Write articles about irises for local, regional and/or national publications
- \* Compete enthusiastically at shows and exhibitions

Please limit your nomination to two pages. Adding some of the youth member's personal attributes is permitted, but remember that identities and locations will be concealed before being sent to the judges.

The deadline for nominations is January 31, 2015. The winner will receive a trophy and cash prize, presented at the 2015 National Convention in Portland, Oregon. First runner up and second runner up also receive a cash prize.

Our younger AIS members deserve recognition and encouragement for their participation in the American Iris Society. Spend some time mentoring these young people. If we are to grow as a society, we need to "cultivate" our youth.

Don't delay. Send your nomination today!

Send your nomination as an attachment to Cheryl Deaton <[region15kids@hotmail.com](mailto:region15kids@hotmail.com)>

or mail it to me at

27218 Walnut Springs Avenue,  
Canyon Country, CA 91351-3314

## Ackerman Essay Contest Topic

I have just received the topic for the 2015 Ackerman Essay Contest, sponsored by the AIS Foundation. *If you were an iris, which one would you be and why?*

Entries should be limited to 2 pages (500-750 words) and be the work of the AIS Youth member. Adults can help with punctuation and spelling. Cash awards will be given to the winner in two age groups, Senior (age 13 and up) and Junior (age 12 and under). Entering the Ackerman Essay Contest is one of the requirements for our new youth patch! The winning entries for 2014 are on the facing page.

Deadline for entries is March 31, 2015. Send your entry as an attachment to Carol Warner <[draycott@qis.net](mailto:draycott@qis.net)>

or mail it to Carol at

16815 Falls Rd., Upperco, MD 21155

## A Huge Thank You!

I wish to thank the Iris Society of Dallas, especially Bonnie Nichols and Dell Perry, for sending all the AIS Youth Members an iris from the 2013 AIS National Convention. I know many irises were types that our youth have not grown before, so they are looking forward to seeing them bloom next season! Irises were also sent to the Classroom Iris Project (CIP) groups in Regions 14 and 18. Approximately three hundred youth members received a newer iris introduction thanks to the efforts of the convention committee members. This is one way that our youth members add newer irises to their gardens.

If you would like to send irises to our youth members, or sponsor a new group of young people in a CIP (classroom iris project, which can be a scout group or church youth group as well), please contact me at <[region15kids@hotmail.com](mailto:region15kids@hotmail.com)> for information.

Do you have pictures or a story about a youth member that you would like to share? Please send them to me so that we can recognize our fabulous youth members. 🌸

Until we meet in a garden somewhere, Happy irising!



# Section Happenings

BY GARY WHITE, AIS SECTION AND COOPERATING SOCIETY LIAISON, NEBRASKA

## Median Iris Society

Median Iris Society members are celebrating the news that Chuck Bunnell's beautiful and unique miniature tall bearded iris, 'Dividing Line' won the 2014 Dykes Memorial Medal. Congratulations, Chuck! This is the first MTB to win this award, traditionally voted to a tall bearded iris. Until now, one arilbred, one border bearded and one intermediate bearded have prevailed—and now a MTB.

Congratulations also to Riley Probst who won the Walther Cup (for most HM votes) with his MTB, 'Holiday In Mexico'. In addition, another MTB bears mentioning, 'Rayos Adentro' by Carol Morgan, which won the Williamson-White Medal. Congratulations, Carol. It is not my intention to dismiss the other median medal winners, but I believe we can agree it was a good year for MTBs, both in abundance of bloom and awards. This can only be due to the hard work of our median hybridizers and their talent for selecting cultivars that, above all, GROW and BLOOM well.

We have certainly seen a great deal of advancement in median irises over the years. It will be exciting to see what the future holds. 🌸

Jean Morris, President

## Spuria Iris Society

The San Fernando Valley Iris Society will host a Spuria Iris Convention in late April/early May 2017 (exact dates will be announced later). There will be two large and beautiful public gardens on display: The Huntington Library and Gardens and Descanso Gardens. 🌸

Andi Rivarola, Vice-President

## Society for Pacific Coast Native Irises

From: SPCNI has succeeded in placing articles on PCIs in two gardening journals, Pacific Horticulture and the Rock Garden Quarterly. While other sections of the genus Iris have regularly gotten attention in gardening journals and popular gardening magazines, Pacific Coast Iris have not had the same attention. The Pacific Horticulture article will be published in the Winter 2014 issue, and the Rock Garden Quarterly article comes out in the fall 2014 issue. The last time Rock Garden Quarterly had a mention of PCIs was decades ago.

SPCNI has a new seed exchange chair, Louise Guerin, who works at Huntington Gardens in southern California. She oversees the Huntington's imports and exports of plant materials. SPCNI was pleased to find a

seed chair who is already experienced with moving plant materials.

SPCNI is looking forward to the convention in 2015, in Portland, Oregon, where PCIs will be among the new plants in the test gardens. 🌸

Kathleen Sayce, Membership chair of SPCNI

**Species Iris Group North America** The SIGNA nomination committee presents the following slate of officers for 2015-2016

|                |                          |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| President      | Ken Walkup               |
| Vice President | Bob Pries                |
| Treasurer      | Nick Stewart             |
| Secretary      | Jody Nolin               |
| Directors      | (Staggered 4 year terms) |
| Jamie Vande    | (2015 – 2018)            |
| Sean Zera      | (2015 – 2018)            |

## Historic Iris Preservation Society

Through a ballot vote by its full membership, HIPS has updated its bylaws to provide for electronic memberships, and for inclusion of electronic voting on bylaws proposals. Once electronic memberships are in place, the HIPS bulletin, *ROOTS*, will be available online for download by members.

New HIPS Directors are Shaub Dunkley of North Carolina and Judy Schneider of Texas. 🌸

## Society for Louisiana Irises

Fall plantings have begun and SLI is busy planting public gardens with Louisiana irises. One of our goals is to educate the public about the Louisiana Irises, and our members, either directly through the SLI or Greater New Orleans Louisiana Iris Society, are planning an active fall planting season. SLI members will be planting native Louisiana irises around the ponds at Vermilionville, an historic Acadian village in Lafayette, Louisiana. In Baton Rouge, the New Orleans members have volunteered to donate rhizomes and help plant around ponds and low areas at the Burden Garden.

Next year the SLI convention will be in Lafayette, Louisiana from April 8-11. The convention has two tour days, and the group will visit the Burden Gardens to see how the plantings are doing. In addition to the Burden gardens, the tour will include stops at five private gardens. Expectations are high for a great bloom and Convention. For more information log on to [www.louisianas.org](http://www.louisianas.org) 🌸

Jim Leonard, President



# "Another Day In The Garden" 2015 Siberian/Species Convention

**Portland, Oregon - May 24-25, 2015**

Immediately following the AIS convention

*Hosted by*

**The Greater Portland Iris Society (GPIS)**

The garden tours will include Aitken's Salmon Creek Garden, Mt Pleasant Iris Farm, Mid-America Garden and Schreiner's Iris Garden. Conditions permitting, a visit to Kevin Vaughn's Garden will take place on the last day.

A registration form is available at the 2015 AIS convention website/siberian convention.

Room reservations can be made at any time by calling **Red Lion on the River**, Portland, Oregon 503-283-4466. Mention GPIS to get the special room rate.

For more information please contact the Convention Registrar:

Judy Nunn 4728 Jade St. NE

Salem, Oregon 97305-3138

503-390-3816

Nunnjk@gmail.com.



'Painted Woman'  
(Schaffer-Sacks 2007) SIB HM 2010

## **Novelty Iris Society**

A new iris society, the Novelty Iris Society is forming. Recognized as novelty are irises such as space age, broken color, variegated foliage, flatties, multi-petaled, and other unusual forms irises. Novelty irises may be bearded or beardless, and may come from any class of iris. The first newsletter has been published and distributed to charter members. The society leaders are working to write bylaws and charter the Novelty Iris Society and plan to petition the AIS Board of Directors for Section status in spring 2015. During this first year of the Novelty Iris Society, you may join as a Charter Member.

Contact acting chair, Bonnie J. Nichols in Dallas, Texas at [bjnhtn@aol.com](mailto:bjnhtn@aol.com) 🌸

## *Future Section Conventions*

### **Society for Louisiana Irises**

2015: April 8-11

Lafayette, LA (see details facing page)

2016: Shreveport, LA

### **Spuria Iris Convention 2017**

Hosted by the San Fernando Valley Iris Society, Los Angeles, California (see details facing page)



**Check out the AIS Blog!**

<http://theamericanirissociety.blogspot.com/>



## *The Real Land Down Under – Tasmania*

BY ELIZABETH MORGAN, TASMANIA, AUSTRALIA

Photo of the 2013 Hobart Iris Show by Elizabeth Morgan



Some 100 miles south of Melbourne is Australia's smallest state, the island of Tasmania, population 500,000. Discovered by the Dutch and named Van Diemen's Land, the island was colonized when England established a penal colony in 1803. Hobart has a fine deep water port, which in the nineteenth century provided the ideal base for hunting whales in the Great Southern Ocean. The island was often described by early visitors as "the Switzerland of the South" due to its mountains and lakes. Today the island's prosperity is largely reliant on farming, fisheries and tourism.

Tasmania is blessed with an ideal climate to grow irises (officially Climate Zone 8, latitude 40° S). Irises from the famous breeders in Oregon plus those from Barry Blyth and Graeme Grosvenor in mainland Australia prosper in Tasmanian gardens.

In Hobart, a small but passionate group of iris growers banded together as The Hobart Horticultural Society Inc Iris Section (website <http://tasblooms.com/irissection/>). Membership includes immigrants from the Czech Republic, Canada, England and Latvia. Members grow several types of iris—Bearded, Californian, Siberian, Louisiana, Spuria and Japanese, with Tall Bearded being most popular. Hybridizing is carried out on a limited scale with members involved pursuing their different personal interests, e.g. Space Agers, Rebloomers, Exhibition TBs, Dwarfs, and Medians.

Each November the Hobart Horticultural Society Inc holds a two day Rose and Iris Show in the majestic Hobart Town Hall. This is the major event on the iris group's calendar and usually coincides with peak TB iris flowering. Irises are the main flower exhibited at the show. In 2012, a total of 450 iris spikes and single blooms were benched. The single bloom category is increasingly popular as almost everyone can find a suitable entry and transport/benching is less of an issue. It also allows the public to view beautiful and eye-popping "out there" blooms from plants which may not provide award winning stems.

In addition, the iris group maintains a display garden of Dykes Medal winning irises at the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens, and a display stand of irises at the annual Royal Hobart Agricultural Show. The agricultural show runs for four days during which time group members staff the stand, selling potted irises and providing iris information to the public.

We feel there exists a close link with our American iris friends, notwithstanding that we are about the furthest distance away the planet allows. Maybe our isolation is the world's future. Scientists tell us Tasmania has the world's cleanest air and has a bee population free of diseases. We export bottled air to China and bees to Canada! ❀



## 2014 Premio Firenze: 'Drifter' (Schreiner 2011)

### Florence International Iris Competition

The Florence Council, in collaboration with the Italian Iris Society, have held an International Iris Competition for tall and bearded irises every year since 1954, with a large presence and international success. The rhizomes of each variety are sent to Florence by hybridizers throughout the world during the period June to September and they are cultivated at the Iris Garden of Piazzale Michelangelo for three years before being judged by an International Jury. The Competition is 'anonymous,' that is, each plant entered is labelled with initials so that the Jury knows the name of the variety and of the hybridizer only after having finished judging. The winner of the Premio Firenze (First Place) receives a Gold Fiorin, the gift of the Florence Tourist Organization.

The light airiness of this impeccable blue amoena has billowing white standards with elegantly ruffled hyacinth blue falls. Held on 40" stems, the 4-1/4" x 6" flowers of this mid-season bloomer dominate the floral landscape. Stem habit: 3-4 branches displaying 9-12 buds on each stalk. ❁

Dyna Herman

Photo and article from Schreiner's Iris Gardens



Photo of the Hobart Horticultural Society Iris stand at the Royal Hobart Agricultural Show by Elizabeth Morgan.



# Notifying a Dykes Medal Winner

BY JIM MORRIS, AIS PRRESIDENT, MISSOURI

Simply stated, the best part of being AIS president is the pleasant task of contacting the winner of the Dykes Memorial Medal the second week in August. Having to leave a message for a callback requires subtlety if not subterfuge, "If you get a chance tonight or tomorrow, please give me a call." When contact is made, the silence (or whooping, or emotional tears) on the other end is stunning. For 2014 the surprise was complete with Chuck Bunnell who won with 'Dividing Line'. After all, this is the first year in AIS history that the medal was awarded for a MTB.

## The Rest of the Story

The Dykes announcement starts the ball rolling. The Wister Medal winners Keith Keppel, Joe Ghio and Richard Tasco were next and each winning hybridizer took it in stride as they all have been there before. Of course, they wanted to know the Dykes winner and the other medal winners but I learned from last year when the winners got out on Facebook before the AIS posted the lists on our web site. I wouldn't tell them! Not even the AMs and HMs. (I didn't have the AM/HM list anyway as it was still held by Awards Chairman Gerry Snyder.)

I proceeded to call all the other medal winners asking that each not post on Facebook until August 18 or until posts were on our three media outlets, whichever came first. This year I coordinated ahead of time with our folks responsible for the AIS web site, the AIS Iris encyclopedia and the *News & Notes* publication so that the announcement could be made simultaneously. The AIS Facebook notice would follow. Both the *N&N* and Facebook reference the AIS web site, so the site has to be made ready with the links set up before the announcements are made elsewhere online.

Paul Black was thrilled once again to win the Knowlton, Sass and Cook-Douglas medals; and Keith Keppel, the Caparne-Welch Medal to go with his top-vote-winning Wister Medal. It was fun informing Carol Morgan of Michigan about winning the Williamson-White Medal with her MTB 'Rayos Adentro'. That was very emotional for her as this is her only introduction as a hybridizer. She told me that she had been a Spanish teacher for twenty-five years and that the name means "sunshine rays from within."

The hardest person to track down was Irene Annand to inform her that her late husband won the Clarence G. White Medal for his arilbred 'Kalifa's Joy'. She said Bob would have been proud. It was fortuitous that her home and property had just survived a fire that came within five feet of their iris garden the previous week. Her neighbor's house burned down along with all the Ponderosa pines and eucalyptus trees on the surrounding properties. She said it was exciting and dangerous as the big airplanes dropped several loads of borate fire suppressant all around her. Wow! I think the CGW medal was anti-climactic in comparison.

I actually caught Thomas Johnson out of the garden to inform him that his arilbred median 'Octave' won the William Mohr Medal. When asked, Joe Ghio couldn't guess which of his many Pacific Coast Native irises had won the Mitchell Medal ('Rodeo Gulch'). The Founders of SIGNA Medal went to 'Caitlin's Smile' the only Species iris introduced by Kevin Morley for James Waddick. Jim asked how we would award it to both of them and I told him we will figure it out if they both come to Portland next year. Jill Copeland was thrilled to win the Randolph Perry Medal for her SPEC-X iris 'Wooly Bully'. I asked her about the name and she said the iris was a "bully" in the garden so she named it after the rock & roll song by Sam the Sham and the Pharaohs that I remember singing and dancing to in the 1960s. The song, in turn, was named for Sam's bully cat.

I caught up with Harry Wolford in Florida and Marty Schafer in Massachusetts informing them of their winning the Mary Swords Debaillon Medal and Morgan-Wood Medal, respectively. Back out west Terry Aitken was pleased with his new Payne Medal for the Japanese iris 'Lady In Pink'. I asked Anna and David Cadd to both get on the phone to tell them they had won the Eric Nies Medal with 'Golden Ducat'. Anna's excitement was rampant and David even said a couple of "oh boys."

All in all, the two days of phone calls and conversations were most enjoyable. 🌸





Clockwise from the top right:  
 Payne Medal: 'Lady in Pink' (Aitken 2006) by T. Aitken  
 Williamson-White Medal: 'Rayos Adentro' (Morgan 2007) by T. Aitken  
 Randolph-Perry Medal: 'Wooly Bully' (Copeland 2006) by T. Aitken  
 Founders of SIGNA Medal: 'Caitlin's Smile (Waddick by Morley 2004) by J. Lauritzen



# Remembering Friends

COMPILED BY JIM MORRIS, OBITUARIES EDITOR

As our senior members pass I remember my personal experiences with many of them. I remember Tracy Plotner's willingness to search the AIS Library archives for me for several of my article subjects; Eileen Fumara's wonderful smile and friendliness during garden tours (or treks as they call them on the west coast); Bill Godfrey's delightful sense of humor and welding experience (my own dad was a welder); Melody Wilhoit's smile and iris knowledge; and LaRue Boswell together with her late husband, Carl, when they hosted and escorted us at Concord and Mt. Diablo in California. ❀

*"History is the most exciting thing we have got. We live in two directions. We live in the future, but we live not enough in the past. You've got to know where you came from."*

Steven Spielberg

National Archives Foundation honoree for Lincoln

## LaRue I. Boswell (1926 – 2014)



LaRue Boswell, 87, died June 10, 2014 at Rocklin, California. She was born on July 14, 1926 in Manti, Utah. She met her husband Carl in Walnut Creek, California while visiting a cousin. They were married in September 1949 at her parents'

home in Utah and were together for 61 years until Carl died in 2010.

LaRue and Carl were a team in our iris world. They were active at the local, regional and national level. While landscaping a new home in the 1950s, Carl bought their first irises from an ad for seedlings, "12 for \$2.50." At the time he had no idea what a seedling was, and \$2.50 was a lot for plants without names. LaRue had been in poor health and had major surgery so Carl lined her hospital room with iris blooms. The following year, 1953, they bought \$25 worth of irises and so it began.

They became active members in the AIS, the Median Iris Society, the Dwarf Iris Society, the Mt. Diablo Iris Society and The Sydney B. Mitchell Iris Society in Oakland. For many years they were a fixture at AIS conventions throughout the United States. LaRue served as Mt. Diablo Iris Society president. LaRue also had a

strong interest in cats serving the Community Concern for Cats in their program of spaying and neutering strays and finding them homes.

LaRue is survived by her sons, Michael (Deanne) Boswell; Timothy (Kathy) Boswell; five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Fifteen AIS members attended her funeral and a reblooming stalk of 'Leave The Light On' was placed in her casket. ❀

## Melody Ruth Wilhoit (1947 – 2014)

Melody Wilhoit, 66, of Kansas, Illinois passed away



June 21, 2014 in Urbana, Illinois. Melody was born July 14, 1947 in Paris, Illinois. She married her high school sweetheart, Jerry Wilhoit, on September 30, 1967 in Kansas.

Melody was a long-time member of AIS Region 9, serving as an AIS director on the board for two terms, 1993–1998. She was also the AIS Awards chairman from 1994–1998. In 2004 Melody was awarded the AIS Distinguished Service Medal (photo above with Terry Aitken by Jean Morris). She and Jerry owned and operated Red Bud Lane Iris Garden in Kansas.

She was very active in both the Louisiana Iris Society of America and the Society for Louisiana Irises and participated in the merger of the two groups.

Melody is survived by her husband, Jerry; two sons, Justin and Jason (Sheley Howlett); a brother, Bruce Foltz; a sister, Dora (BJ) Roberts; two granddaughters and a step grandson. The AIS president attended her wake along with what seemed half the population of Kansas. Six Region 9 members attended her funeral. ❀

## Eileen E. Fumara (1946 – 2014)

Eileen Fumara, 67, of Sherman Oaks, California, was born March 29, 1946 and died in 2014.

She was a member of the San Fernando Valley Iris Society in Region 15 and was renowned for her floral arranging abilities. She served that club as secretary and president and was awarded the David T. Ross award in 2005 for her outstanding service.

Eileen frequently earned the Best Design of Show



award along with the Artistic Sweepstakes award, the latter nine times between 1992 and 2005.

She was a member of many other garden clubs such as the statewide California Garden Clubs, Inc., Southern California Garden Club, Los Angeles Garden Club and the Culver City Garden Club. The CCGC dedicated their sixtieth anniversary show to Eileen for all the floral design services she had provided. She was touted by all these clubs for her floral arranging skills and her helpfulness to others. ❀

Eileen was purported to be a “tough” design judge and a great floral designer who also had a vast botanical knowledge. I remember her warm personality and great smile. ❀

### Angelique Monet Violette (1941 – 2014)

Born in Hillsboro, Illinois January 4, 1941, Angelique,

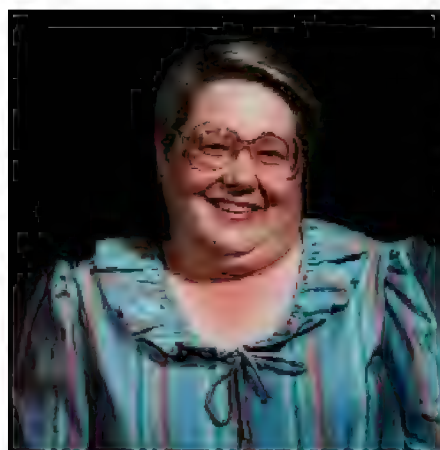


known as Ann, Violette, 73, of Polson, Montana passed away July 1, 2014. A member of Region 11, the far-flung area of Idaho, Montana and Wyoming, she served as RVP and attended several AIS conventions. Ann, performed one of those little-appreciated jobs for AIS – distribution of

excess AIS Bulletins.

She was preceded in death by two sisters, Patricia and Sue and a brother Mick. She is survived by her husband, Donald; her children, Jeanne and JP; and four grandchildren. ❀

### Tracy Jeanne Plotner (1943 – 2014)



Tracy Plotner, 70, of Molalla, Oregon in Region 13, passed away August 22, 2014. She was born in Oregon on September 30, 1943,

Tracy was a past president of the Greater Portland Iris Society, membership chair of Region 13, and served several years as the

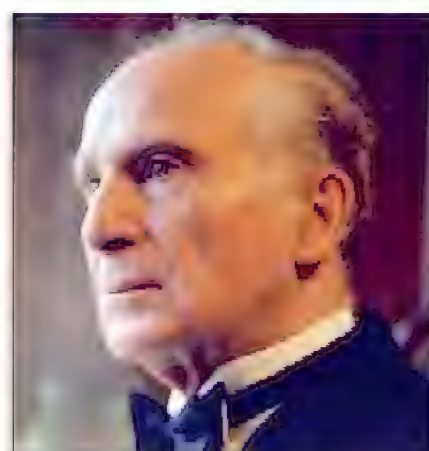
AIS librarian. She also served as an AIS Master Judge.

Tracy is survived by her husband of 50 years, Will Plotner; three children, Jaqueline Bakke, Martin Plotner, and Steffeny Mayfield; seven grandchildren; and, three great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her mother Peggy Wilson; her sister Barbara Lowell, and brother Jay Wilson. ❀



### William R. Godfrey (1927 – 2014)

Bill Godfrey, 86, of Foxborough, Massachusetts died of a heart attack March 13, 2014. He was born on October



28, 1927 in Leyton, England and married Ada (Forster) Godfrey in 1955. They lived in Essex, England, coming to the United States in 1964 with their young family. Bill was a long-time member of Region 1 and the Iris Society of Massachusetts.

Bill and Ada owned Hermit Medlar's Walk, where they hybridized and sold irises and daylilies. Jointly, they introduced twenty-one SDBs and six MDBs. Their first introduction was the SDB 'Cross Your Fingers' in 1996. 'Riverbuds' SDB (2003) was awarded the AM in 2009 (photo by Peggy Mallen above) while 'Lemon Curd' won the HM in 2003.

Bill is survived by his wife Ada; son, William; daughter Penelope (Donald) Beer; and five grandchildren. ❀

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Don't forget the blog!

<http://theamericanirissociety.blogspot.com/>



# Iris parts: Diversity in the Genus

In May 2014 I gave a presentation that I titled *Iris Parts, Diversity in the Genus* for the *Sidney B. Mitchell Iris Society* in Oakland, California. My fascination with iris extends to all corners of the genus and I try to include as much diversity as I can when I do presentations. Plant parts is a rather tricky subject as it can easily be rather tedious; for example, not being a botanist, I found Dr. Rodionenko's wonderful botanical monograph *The Genus Iris* fascinating but a bit slow going. Despite the tricky subject, the presentation went over well, even to the point that Gesine Lohr, editor of the *Historic Iris Preservation Society* bulletin, *ROOTS*, suggested that it be published in the *AIS* bulletin. This is the first of a four-part series of articles derived from the presentation, parts at the bottom of irises, the parts found beneath the ground.



Figure 1. *I. germanica*

*I. germanica*, Figure 1, has a rhizome typical of the European bearded iris. The rhizome is somewhat like a fat, short stem. It grows horizontally at, or just below, the surface of the soil with roots extending from the underside and with leaves developing at the growing tip. Seasons of rapid growth produce a fatter rhizome than seasons when the plant is more dormant. *Iris germanica* blooms in the spring, producing a blossom stalk at the tip of strong rhizomes. This ends the forward growth of the rhizome, but dormant buds along the side of the rhizome sprout causing the rhizome to branch. If the rhizome doesn't bloom, it produces another season of fat growth. This growth pattern is shown in the right photo of Figure 1.



Figure 2. *I. paradoxa*

Oncocylus are a different type of bearded iris native to the Middle East. They also have rhizomes. An example is *I. paradoxa*, Figure 2. Despite being a small iris, *Iris paradoxa*'s rhizome is a couple of inches below the surface of the soil; this protects it from the heat of the summer while the plant is fully dormant. The leftmost section of the rhizome in the photo is shriveled and dead with age. This death of old rhizome segments occurs in all irises with rhizomes.

Beardless irises also have rhizomes. They live in a wide variety of climates and habitats.



Figure 3. *I. vetricosa*

*I. vetricosa*, Figure 3, is a beardless iris that thrives in the harsh cold, dry winters of Mongolia and southern Siberia. The ruler in the right photo is 24 inches long. The rhizomes grow at least 6 inches underground to protect them from winter temperatures of  $-30^{\circ}\text{F}$  or colder with no insulating snow cover. My USDA zone 9 garden seems too warm for them; I have had to refrigerate the large pots in the winter to induce bud formation. As you can see from the right photo, the roots are wrapped around the bottom of the deep pot. Clearly, the plant would like to put down much deeper roots than the container permitted.



# Part 1– Beneath the Ground

BY KENNETH WALKER, CALIFORNIA

Another beardless iris, *I. nelsonii*, is shown in Figure 4. It is a Louisiana iris species used in the ancestry of many modern hybrids. This iris is native to swamps near Abbeville, Louisiana, a radically different climate than that of *I. vetricosa*. The rhizome grows near the surface of the soil. During the summer growing season, the rhizome grows rapidly, retaining a sequence of green leaves. The photo of the rhizome shows why Louisiana irises have a reputation for “wandering.” The strong growth can plough through weaker plants.

*I. tridentata*, Figure 5, also grows in wet areas in the southern United States, but in states east of Louisiana. It has a pattern of wandering that differs from that of Louisiana iris. Rhizomes produce new growth buds in the fall. These extend in the spring before establishing new rhizomes at a distance from the old one. This happens before bloom time.

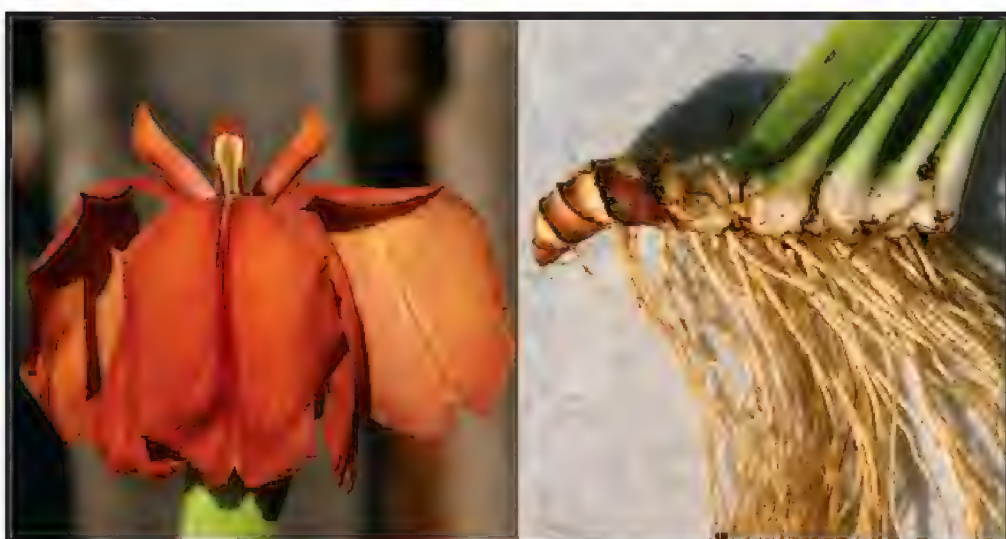


Figure 4. *I. nelsonii*

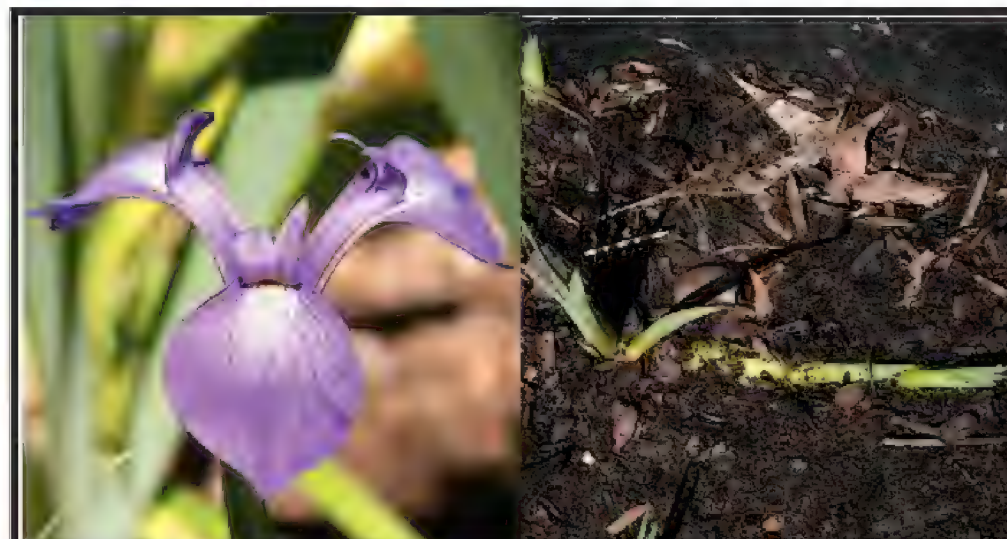


Figure 5. *I. tridentata*

Not all irises have rhizomes. *I. barbatula*, Figure 6, is one of small group of related iris native to the region of the Himalayas. Botanists place them in their own subgenus, *Nepalensis*. During winter dormancy, these irises produce new growth points, each with fat storage roots extending below them.

The most well-known irises without rhizomes are the Dutch iris, frequently used by florists and often grown by gardeners as spring bulbs. Like most spring bulbs, they go dormant in the summer. *I. tingintana*, Figure 7, is a wild ancestor of the Dutch hybrids. As illustrated by the photo on the right, its bulbs reproduce by developing offsets at the base. *I. tingintana* is also known as the Morocco Iris because of its homeland. Related irises also grow in Spain.

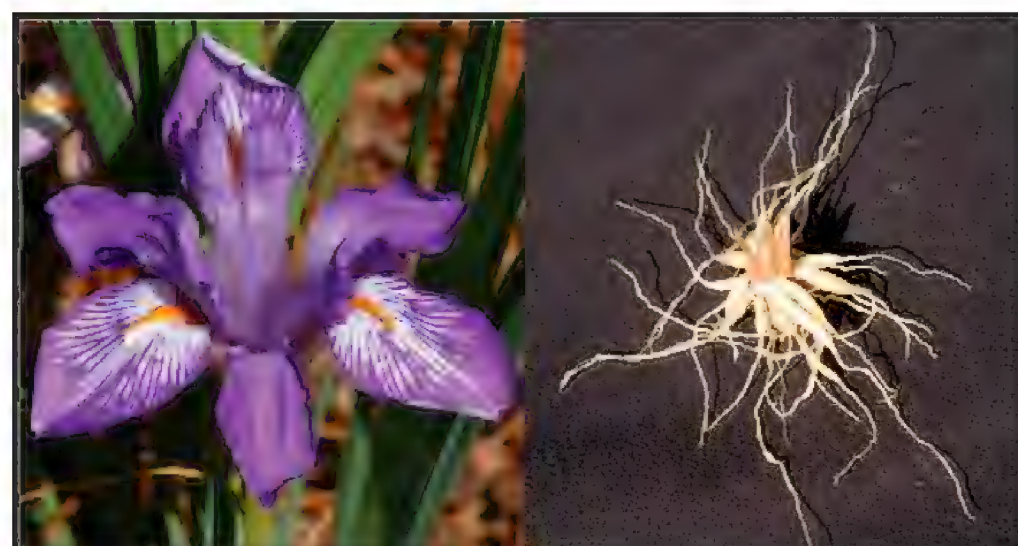


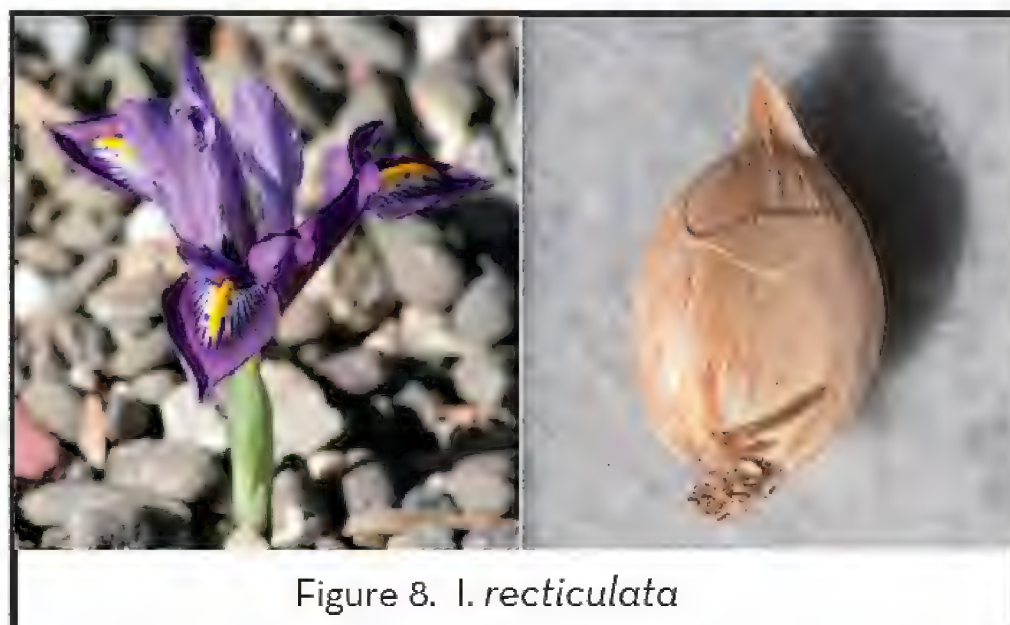
Figure 6. *I. barbatula*



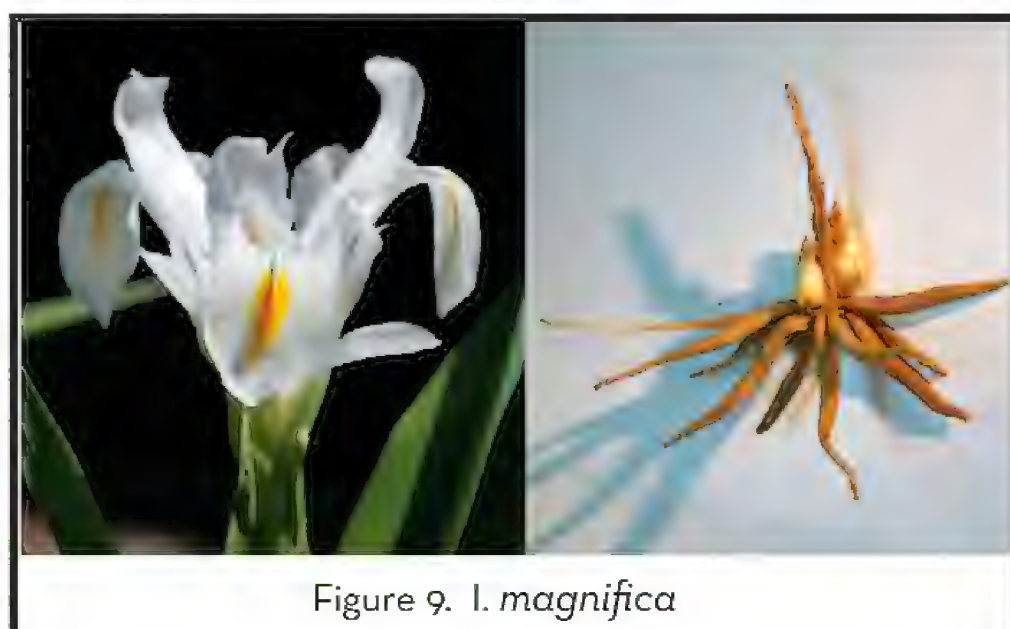
Figure 7. *I. tingintana*



*I. reticulata*, Figure 8, and its relatives comprise another type of iris with bulbs. These small irises are also available to gardeners as spring bulbs. The plant in the photo was originally collected near Lake Sevan, Armenia.



Most Juno irises grow over a similar region as the reticulatas: the Caucasus south into the Middle East. *I. magnifica*, Figure 9, is an example. Material for the strain in the photos originally came from the Agalik Valley of Uzbekistan. One characteristic of Juno irises is that, in addition to bulbs, they have storage roots that they retain during dormancy. *I. magnifica* has particularly well developed roots.



*I. tuberosus*, Figure 10, known for a time as *Hermodactylus tuberosus*, is in a category by itself. Not only are the blooms green and black, unusual flower colors, but mature plants have tuber-like underground parts. Curiously though, the seedlings have bulbs. The iris on the right was being transplanted a bit late in the season; most of the brittle roots have lost their tips. Fortunately the plant recovered from the indignity.



Watch for these remaining articles about parts of iris in future issues: Part 2: *Between the Ground and the Flowers*, Part 3: *Flowers*, and Part 4: *Reproduction*. 🌸



# Classroom Iris Project

BY CHERYL DEATON, YOUTH CHAIR

Fall is back-to-school time. It is also iris planting time. How about beginning a new school/youth project? There are many studies, reports and articles about the beneficial effects of gardening on people of all ages and in all walks of life. There is something about planting a seed or a bulb or a rhizome and watching it become a plant with beautiful blooms that just makes people of all ages feel good. A directed garden project includes learning about gardening and the plants you want to grow – there's science, math, language arts and sociology involved, but don't tell the kids!

A CIP includes a group of young people, under the guidance of an adult, who participate in activities involving irises. It might be a teacher and twenty-five children in a fourth grade class who are interested in learning more about irises. It can also be a group of youth in a supervised after-school program. It can also be a scout troop that wants to complete activities towards earning a badge, a group of young people trying to beautify an area using irises as part of the landscape, or high school students enrolled in a horticultural design class. The American Iris Society has programs available that can be adapted to children of various ages.

Everything you need to know about establishing and managing a CIP is on [www.aisyouth.com](http://www.aisyouth.com) the AIS youth website. There are activities that can be done monthly. I hope that local clubs will mentor their CIP students with helpful hints on growing irises, entering shows and creating designs using irises. You are only limited by your creativity and imagination. The youth newsletter, *The Iris Fan*, also has contest information and news about youth activities. Youth also receive the *AIS Youth Member Handbook*.

Many schools do not have the money to enhance the landscape at the schools. One activity is to plant a "themed" iris garden. A Storybook Garden has irises named after characters in storybooks. It can be planted at a school or community garden, and the books that the characters are in can be donated to the school library if they are not already in their collection. Irises with patriotic names could be planted at a veteran's home. There is an endless variety of possible themes.

Are ready to start a CIP? Get all your ducks in a row and send in the dues for your youth members. If I can help in any way, just contact Cheryl Deaton at <[region15kids@hotmail.com](mailto:region15kids@hotmail.com)>. I am here to help. ❀

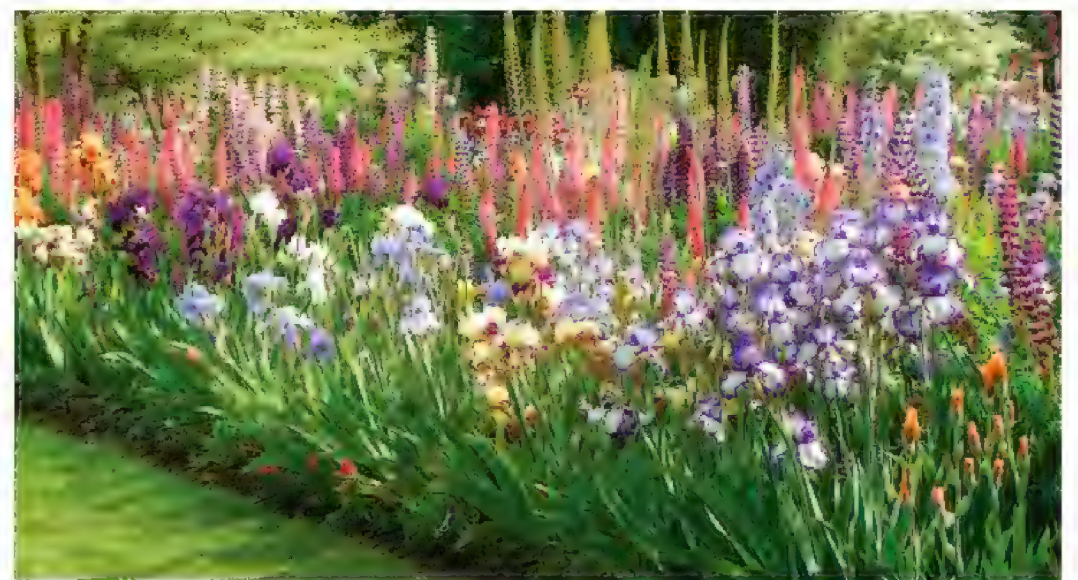
# Tall Bearded Iris and Companion Plants

BY SUSANNE HOLLAND SPICKER

PUBLISHED ON WORLD OF IRISES BLOG DECEMBER 2, 2013

One of the most enjoyable aspects of growing tall bearded irises is the countless ways we can use them in our gardens. Using a variety of companion plants for texture, shape, height and color can enhance the beauty of a garden. And, since the color range of irises rival nearly all plants—available in every imaginable hue, tone and color of the rainbow except maybe a true red—the possibilities are endless!

By using the early, mid and late blooms of the irises, there are several plants that fit into their window of bloom. For instance, the last of the single late tulips, or the first blooms of the hybrid tea roses overlap the early and late iris blooms. The colors, height and form of lupine add interest to the bed and are a favorite of mine to use because their bloom time perfectly coincides with the iris bloom time. Peonies, both tree and herbaceous, as well as poppies, are also favorites. Other perennials I have used successfully in the iris beds have been allium, clematis, columbine, dutch iris, foxglove, delphinium, lilacs, and even early gladiola, whose corms have over-wintered and start their growth early before I start planting new ones that will flower much later in the season. The good things about all of these perennials is that their growing conditions are compatible with the conditions needed for tall bearded irises.



When planning the beds, I look for companion plants that are relatively easy to grow, are hardy and reliable, and plants that look their best with minimal care. Keep in mind the growth of your irises and the room they need to establish a nice clump. These plants have worked well for me. But, as you plan your beds, don't be afraid to experiment. If it doesn't work, you can always move the plants around. ❀

Photo of Schreiner's western garden taken Memorial Day 2012.



# Herbicide Studies: Weed Control in Irises

BY JOHN E. KAUFMANN, MICHIGAN

(Ed. Note: This is the final in a series of articles John has written on weed control in irises. He welcomes questions about his studies via email and thanks the AIS Foundation for the financial support of his work.)

In this article I will cover Groups F and L and recent research test results on beardless iris.

Group F herbicides are known as the carotenoid biosynthesis inhibitors. Carotenoids are yellow-orange pigments in the plants. Their loss also causes loss of (green) chlorophyll. As a result the symptoms, the herbicide appears to bleach the leaves white, sometimes leaving some anthocyanin (red). This class has generally been found safe on vegetation of all types of iris. I have not applied just prior to bloom, so I do not know if color bleaching might occur on the blooms.

This group of herbicides can have both pre and post emergent activity on certain weeds. The two herbicides I have tested are mesotrione and tembotrione. Specific weeds each one controls can be found on the labels. Mesotrione can be purchased by the homeowner on the internet under the trade name Tenacity™. Later on in this article, I discuss a recent research project where tembotrione was applied at 2 times the recommended rate. No injury was observed on any of the iris species tested, but crabgrass in the plot was severely bleached (Photo 1).

Group L herbicides are those that inhibit cellulose development in susceptible plants. This group is mostly pre-emergent herbicides that, similar to K1 and K2, must be watered in the soil to prevent weed seeds from germinating.

The two herbicides I have tested include isoxaben and indaziflam. The latter is not yet available to the homeowner. However, Isoxaben can be found on the internet under the trade name Gallery™, or in combination with trifluralin under the trade name Snapshot™. Isoxaben primarily prevents broadleaf weeds while trifluralin prevents mostly grassy weeds. Therefore, the combination provides a broad spectrum of weed prevention.

While both herbicides are safe for over-the-top application of the iris species tested, my research shows indaziflam to have both broadleaf and grassy, as well as longer lasting weed prevention. It is my hope this herbicide becomes available to the homeowner market.

Last fall I initiated another herbicide evaluation, with permission of the hybridizers, by planting eleven beardless iris seedlings left over from the AIS convention.

I also planted one bearded iris (a mixture of 'Going My Way' and 'Stepping Out').

This spring, after presenting a talk on herbicides at the AIS convention, I was offered and planted seven varieties of gladiolus. Fourteen herbicide or herbicide combinations were applied on July 11, 2014 at double normal use rate. Both of the Group C herbicides, atrazine and simazine, caused leaf tip die back on all eleven beardless iris (Photo 2). However, Group O herbicides, which were injurious to bearded iris, appeared safe to the vegetative stage of beardless iris. Several varieties of gladiolus were sending up bloom stalks at application and Group O herbicides showed typical twisting of stems illustrated in Photo 3.

In conclusion, please understand that the extent of my research tests included:

1. bearded cultivars 'Blue Pools', 'Distant Fire', 'Jesse's Song', and a mix of 'Going My Way' and 'Stepping Out'
2. beardless cultivars: 'Premier' (spuria), a seedling (lavigata), eight Siberian seedlings and one species-X seedling.

As a result, I can only suggest herbicides mentioned in the articles will perform similarly on other cultivars within the species I have tested; I cannot be sure. Always test your herbicide application on a small area until you are sure you can get good weed control without iris injury.

The following are summary statements for those herbicides within each group that were tested. To find specific herbicides tested, refer back to the appropriate article.

1. Group A herbicides, called graminicides, grass killers or fops & dims, were found to be safe for "over-the-top" application on all iris.
2. Group C herbicides, example simazine, were found to be safe for over-the-top application on bearded iris, but were somewhat injurious to beardless iris. Directed application around the base of beardless iris may be difficult since these herbicides can be root absorbed.
3. Group E herbicide sulfentrazone was found to have good control of emerged nutsedge, but showed some leaf tip burn on beardless iris.



Therefore, “directed” application on the nutsedge is recommended, avoiding exposure to iris as much as possible. Oxadiazon is a pre-emergent herbicide that can be applied “over-the-top” of iris in a granular form.

4. Group F herbicides, example mesotrione, can be applied over-the-top of all iris.
5. Group G herbicide, glyphosate, cannot be applied close to iris. Even small amounts of particle drift will injure iris. Use hooded sprayers.
6. Group K herbicides, those that target both root and shoot growing points of germinating seeds, were found to be safe for “over-the-top” application of all iris.
7. Group O herbicides, called auxins or “dandelion killers,” should not be applied prior to initiation of iris bloom-stalks. Either a small amount of particle drift and/or latent vapor drift may cause twisting and distortion. In vegetative phases, over-the-top applications injured bearded iris but appeared safe on beardless iris. For bearded iris, consider using “directed” applications that avoid direct exposure to vegetation as much as possible.

Finally, a reminder: always read and follow label directions and follow appropriate safety practices. ♣

I hope these articles have been helpful to you.  
John Kaufman.



Photo 1. Crabgrass injury/control with tembotrione. All iris and gladiolus showed no injury. Photo was taken on July 24, 2014, thirteen days after application.



Photo 2. Triazine injury on leaf tips of Siberian iris. Photo was taken August 6, 2014, 25 days after application.



Photo 3. Gladiolus bloom stalk treated with a Group O herbicide when stalk was in the sheath. Photo was taken on July 24, 2014, thirteen days after application.

*John Kaufmann is a retired herbicide researcher who worked for Monsanto. For more information about his studies with herbicides and their effects on irises, email him at <jekaufmann@gmail.com>.*

## Presby Memorial Iris Gardens Bee Sanctuary

Our journey toward establishing a bee sanctuary was unknowingly begun in 2007. That was the year we eliminated pesticides and herbicides from the park enclave housing the Presby iris collection. Years of overuse had done great damage to the gardens in oh so many ways.

Presby's love affair with the honeybees began when a hive was discovered between the floorboards of the second and third floor of the Walther house. When the beekeeper removed the hive and gave us a bowl of the 'iris honey' we were delighted. Hosting an independent beekeeper for the past three years produced hundreds of pounds of delicious honey, sold in our Bloom Room Gift shop. ([www.presbyirisgardens.org](http://www.presbyirisgardens.org))



[www.ais2015portlandconvention.com](http://www.ais2015portlandconvention.com)



## 2015 AIS Spring Convention Iris in Wonderland Portland, Oregon May 18-23

The Greater Portland Iris Society, host for the 2015 American Iris Society National Convention, invites all iris friends to Portland, Oregon, for "Iris in Wonderland 2015."

Convention chair: John Ludi

PO Box 956

Sandy Oregon 97055

503-668-9230, fax 503-826-8808

<kludi@juno.com>

Convention Registrar: Judy Nunn

4728 Jade St NE

Salem, Oregon 97305-3138

phone/fax 503-390-3816

<nunnjk@gmail.com>

All of the latest updates are on the convention website including the registration form, event schedule and details about the tour gardens.

### Convention Headquarters

The Convention Headquarters is the Red Lion Hotel On The River, Jantzen Beach-Portland, Oregon. This is the same hotel we used for the 2006 National Convention. The hotel address is 909 N. Hayden Island Drive, Portland, Oregon 97217. Phone: 503-283-4466. Convention rate is \$97/night plus tax.

### Convention Registration Form

A printable registration form is available on our web site.

### Convention Schedule

A detailed meeting/activity schedule is available on our web site and will be printed in the Convention Handbook.

### Convention Garden Visits

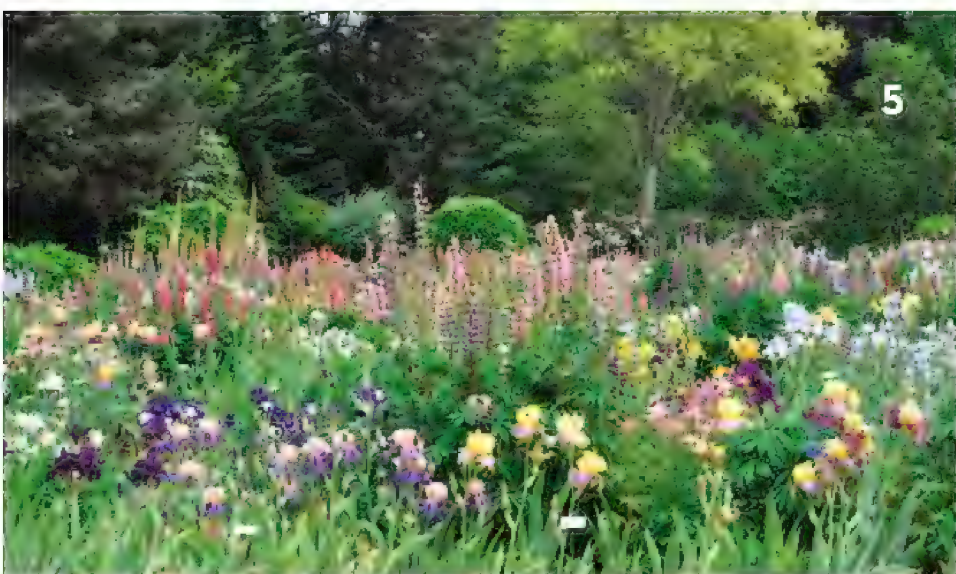
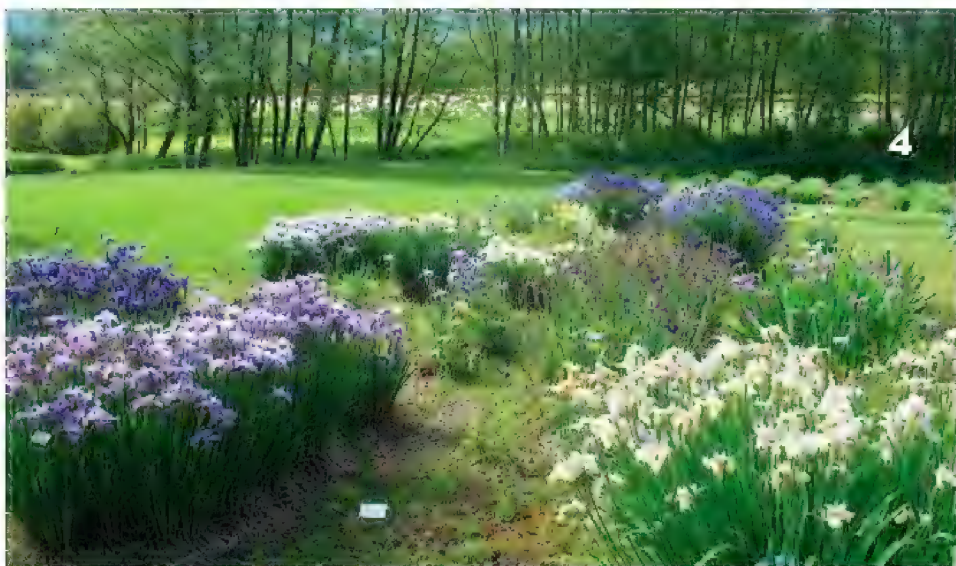
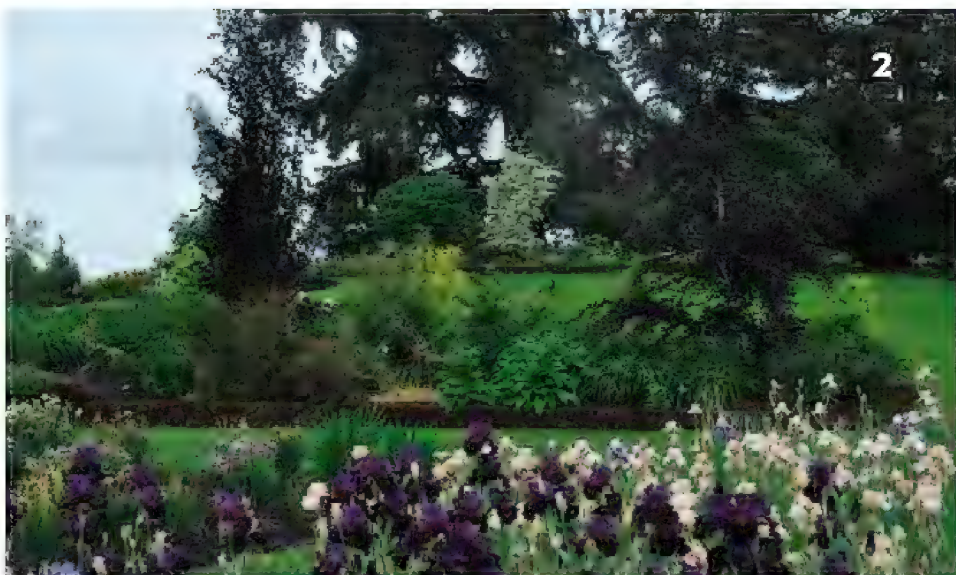
There are six gardens on the garden tour included with a full convention registration. The price goes up after March 21, 2015.

1. Aitken's Salmon Creek Garden (Barbara and Terry Aitken)
2. Mid America Garden (Thomas Johnson)
3. Miller's Manor Gardens (Lynda and Roger Miller)
4. Mt. Pleasant Iris Farm (Chad Harris)
5. Schreiner's Iris Gardens (Schreiner Family, Liz Schmidt)
6. Wildwood Gardens (Will Plotner)

Two optional tours are available for an additional cost until all spaces are filled.

1. Columbia River Gorge and Mt. Hood
2. Additional Garden Tour includes:  
Oregon Garden and  
Keppel-Remare Garden and  
Kevin Vaughn's garden





# 2015 Silent Auction Reminder

BY DEBRA STRAUSS AND NICK STEWART,  
AIS SILENT AUCTION CO-CHAIRS

We need your contributions for a wonderful silent auction. Everyone, please send us treasures of any kind! **hybridizers**, please send iris donations! We love you all and thank you in advance for your generosity! Please help the AIS by getting your newest introductions into the hands of iris lovers!

**Hey, AIS Regions!** A little reminder for you too! Hope you all asked your affiliates for "Raisin' Region Basket" items. The Region baskets are a real treat for the attendees at the AIS Convention. We really appreciate the hard work and dedication that it takes as an RVP and Region officers to get this basket all together for the silent auction. They are all so unique and everyone enjoys perusing the contents and learning about your part of our great country. Bring the baskets all ready to display, or mail them to the addresses below. Please be sure to put a note inside the mailing box and send Debbie an email that you are sending them.



<debrastrauss@outlook.com>

Shipping information for auction items:

Send **UPS shipments** to  
AIS Silent Auction, c/o John Ludi,  
35071 SE Hwy 211,  
Boring, OR 97009-9584.

Send **USPS shipments** to  
AIS Silent Auction, c/o John Ludi,  
PO Box 956,  
Sandy, OR 97055.

*Auction donations can be sent/received any time, but please...the sooner the better! It would be really helpful if you email a list of items being donated to Debbie. 🌸*





Top left to right:

**Hans And Jacob Sass Medal:** 'Dazzling' (Paul Black 2008) by K. Norris

**Sydney B. Mitchell Medal:** 'Rodeo Gulch' (Joseph Ghio 2004) by K. Walker

Bottom left to right:

**Knowlton Medal:** 'Lady Of The Night' (Paul Black 2008) by J. Graham

**Cook-Douglas Medal:** 'Eye Of The Tiger' (Paul Black 2008) by T. Aitken





# 2014 AIS AWARDS

## **The Dykes Medal All Iris Classes Originated in US or Canada**

(Total Votes Cast = 452)

79 'Dividing Line' (Charles Bunnell) MTB

Runners Up:

64 'Gypsy Lord' (Keith Keppel) TB

31 'Chief John Jolly' (Tom Parkhill) TB

27 'Bluebeard's Ghost' (Paul Black) SDB

25 'Kathy Chilton' (Frederick Kerr) TB

22 'Absolute Treasure' (Richard Tasco) TB

22 'Elizabethan Age' (Lowell Baumunk) TB

## **The John C. Wister Medal Tall Bearded Irises**

(Total Votes Cast = 1092)

63 'Montmartre' (Keith Keppel)

34 'Magical' (Joseph Ghio)

32 'Black Magic Woman' (Richard Tasco)

Runners Up:

31 'Temporal Anomaly' (Richard Tasco)

27 'Money In Your Pocket' (Paul Black)

25 'Parisian Dawn' (Keith Keppel)

23 'Jazz Band' (Keith Keppel)

23 'Peggy Sue' (Larry Lauer)

23 'Wild Angel' (Thomas Johnson)

## **The Knowlton Medal Border Bearded Irises**

(Total Votes Cast = 245)

120 'Lady Of The Night' (Paul Black)

Runners Up:

56 'Niche' (Joseph Ghio)

38 'Zingerado' (Lowell Baumunk)

31 'Meerkat Manor' (Brad Kasperek)

## **The Hans And Jacob Sass Medal Intermediate Bearded Irises**

(Total Votes Cast = 300)

102 'Dazzling' (Paul Black)

Runners Up:

74 'Man's Best Friend' (Paul Black)

50 'Many Mahalos' (J. T. Aitken)

39 'Limonada' (Keith Keppel)

35 'Dragonmaster' (Marky Smith)

## **The Williamson-White Medal Miniature Tall Bearded Irises**

(Total Votes Cast = 259)

68 'Rayos Adentro' (Carol Morgan)

Runners Up:

61 'Redrock Princess' (Jean Witt)

52 'Persona' (Keith Keppel)

49 'Razzleberry' Dressing (Stephanie Markham)

29 'Petit Louvois' (Clarence Mahan)

## **The Cook-Douglas Medal Standard Dwarf Bearded Irises**

(Total Votes Cast = 291)

52 'Eye Of The Tiger' (Paul Black)

Runners Up:

27 'Big Blue Eyes' (Paul Black)

25 'Absolute Joy' (J. T. Aitken)

22 'Canadian Kisses' (Paul Black)

19 'Spiderman' (Donald Spoon)

18 'Maui Sunrise' (J. T. Aitken)

## **The Caparne-Welch Medal Miniature Dwarf Bearded Irises**

(Total Votes Cast = 145)

70 'Icon' (Keith Keppel)

Runners Up:

32 'Ruby Elf' (A. & D. Willott)

23 'Stripling' (Marky Smith)

20 'Applet' (Marky Smith)

## **The Clarence G. White Medal Aril Irises and Arilbred Irises with at least 50% aril content**

(Total Votes Cast = 107)

35 'Kalifa's Joy' (Robert Annand)

Runners Up:

30 'Persian Queen' (Robert Annand)

26 'Silent Sentry' (Richard Tasco)

8 'Jelly Roll Jam' (Caroline Chacon)

8 'Penninah's Provocation' (Pete McGrath)



**The William Mohr Medal  
Arilbred Irises with less than 50%,  
but at least 25%, aril content**

(Total Votes Cast = 124)

47 'Octave' (Thomas Johnson)

Runners Up:

41 'Prince Of Egypt' (Perry Dyer)

21 'Chain Reaction' (Richard Tasco)

15 'Nefret' (Marky Smith)

**The Founders Of Signa Medal  
Species Irises**

(Total Votes Cast = 115)

30 'Caitlin's Smile' (James Waddick By Kevin Morley)

Runners Up:

29 'Epic Poem' (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks)

27 'Jin Yu' (Jill Copeland)

19 'Gubijin' (Hiroshi Shimizu)

10 'Tourist' (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks)

**The Randolph Perry Medal  
Inter-Species Hybrid (Spec-X) Irises**

(Total Votes Cast = 163)

53 'Wooly Bully' (Jill Copeland)

Runners Up:

45 'Kinshikou' (Hiroshi Shimizu By Carol Warner)

22 'Currier McEwen' (Tony Huber)

22 'Everest Blue' (O. D. Niswonger)

21 'Plum Duck' (Brad Kasperek)

**The Sydney B. Mitchell Medal  
Pacific Coast Native Irises**

(Total Votes Cast = 32)

9 'Rodeo Gulch' (Joseph Ghio)

Runners Up:

8 'Bubble Wrap' (Joseph Ghio)

4 'Eye Catching' (Joseph Ghio)

4 'Periwinkle Persian' (Deborah Cole)

4 'Pinole Prince' (Vernon Wood By Terri Hudson)

3 'Letter Perfect' (Lois Belardi)

**The Mary Swords Debaillon Medal  
Louisiana Irises**

(Total Votes Cast = 144)

48 'Edna Claunch' (Harry Wolford)

Runners Up:

31 'Renée Fleming' (Heather Pryor)

27 'Frederick Douglass' (Dorman Haymon)

16 'Rochester Lilacs' (Heather Pryor)

12 'Frenchmen Street' (Patrick O'Connor)

10 'Zydeco' (Patrick O'Connor)

**The Morgan-Wood Medal - Siberian Irises**

(Total Votes Cast = 225)

56 'Tree Of Songs' (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks)

Runners Up:

52 'Kaboom' (Bob Bauer/John Coble)

33 'Charming Billy' (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks)

31 'Humors Of Whiskey' (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks)

27 'Kilauea' (Marky Smith)

26 'Haleakala' (Marky Smith)

**The Eric Nies Medal - Spuria Irises**

(Total Votes Cast = 116)

41 'Golden Ducat' (Anna & David Cadd)

Runners Up:

28 'Castor River' (O. D. Niswonger)

27 'Saint Patrick's Gold' (Anna & David Cadd)

20 'Sunrise Surprise' (O. D. Niswonger)

**The Payne Medal - Japanese Irises**

(Total Votes Cast = 101)

25 'Lady In Pink' (J. T. Aitken)

Runners Up:

21 'Pink Puffer' (Jill Copeland)

19 'Beyond Chance' (Donald Delmez)

18 'Christina's Gown' (Jill Copeland)

18 'Gingham Geisha' (Dennis Hager)

**The Fred And Barbara Walther Cup  
Most HM Votes in Any Category**

66 'Holiday In Mexico' (Riley Probst) MTB

Runners Up:

64 'My Cher' (Paul Black) SDB

61 'Jeanne Clay Plank' (Frederick Kerr) TB

61 'Volcanic Glow' (Keith Keppel) TB

59 'Double Platinum' (Joseph Ghio) TB

58 'Insaniac' (Thomas Johnson) TB





**2014 Eric Nies Medal:**

'Golden Ducat' (Anna and David Cadd) (above)

Photo by J Lauritzen

**2014 Morgan-Wood Medal:**

'Tree of Songs' (Schafer and Sacks 2006)

Photo by Jan Sacks (right)



**2014 Mary Swords Debaillon Medal**

'Edna Claunch' was named for Dr. Edna Claunch (see story on page 8) by hybridizer and Society for Louisiana Irises past president Harry Wolford in 2004.

Photo by Harry Wolford.





### **TB Award Of Merit**

(Total Votes Cast = 4314)

- 98 'Notta Lemon' (Tom Burseen)
- 89 'Tuscan Summer' (Keith Keppel)
- 82 'Haunted Heart' (Keith Keppel)
- 80 'Spice Trader' (John Painter)
- 74 'Beauty Becomes Her' (Paul Black)
- 74 'Sharp Dressed Man' (Thomas Johnson)
- 56 'Better Than Butter' (Paul Black)
- 56 'Reckless Abandon' (Keith Keppel)
- 53 'Black Is Black' (Schreiner)
- 49 'Bottle Rocket' (Michael Sutton)
- 45 'Backdraft' (Hugh Stout)
- 44 'Class Ring' (Keith Keppel)
- 44 'Sammie's Jammies' (Tom Burseen)
- 41 'Center Ice' (Joseph Ghio)
- 40 'Raven Girl' (Schreiner)
- 39 'Aztec Art' (Thomas Johnson)
- 39 'My Beloved' (Joseph Ghio)
- 38 'Just A Kiss Away' (Lowell Baumunk)
- 37 'Greatest Show On Earth' (Frederick Kerr)
- 37 'Sun Shine In' (Keith Keppel)
- 37 'Trumped' (Tom Burseen)

Runners Up:

- 36 'Doctor Who' (George Sutton)
- 36 'Strawberry Frosting' (Michael Sutton)
- 36 'Winterberry' (Donald Spoon)
- 34 'Orangutan Orange' (Brad Kasperek)
- 33 'Noble Gesture' (Keith Keppel)
- 32 'Cheap Frills' (Paul Black)
- 32 'Circle Of Light' (Paul Black)
- 32 'Deep Currents' (Thomas Johnson)
- 32 'Kickapoo Kangaroo' (Brad Kasperek)
- 32 'Tunnel Vision' (Keith Keppel)
- 31 'El Greco' (Lowell Baumunk)
- 31 'Going Green' (Anton Mego By J. T. Aitken)
- 31 'Lest We Forget' (George Sutton)
- 31 'Rio Rojo' (Schreiner)
- 30 'Mango Parfait' (Donald Spoon)
- 30 'My Generation' (Larry Lauer)
- 29 'Bright Sunshiny Day' (Thomas Johnson)
- 29 'Fashion Diva' (Thomas Johnson)
- 29 'Orchid Dove' (Donald Spoon)
- 29 'Penguin Party' (Thomas Johnson)

### **BB Award Of Merit**

(Total Votes Cast = 293)

- 46 'Dance Card' (Keith Keppel)
- 44 'Ballerina Pink' (Paul Black)
- 44 'Devil's Waltz' (Lynn Markham)

Runners Up:

- 40 'Imbroglia' (Keith Keppel)
- 35 'Whoopsidaisy' (Jim Hedgecock)
- 28 'Banana Royale' (J. T. Aitken)
- 22 'Hoodoo Blues' (Stephanie Markham)
- 19 'Magic Quest' (Richard Tasco)

### **IB Award Of Merit**

(Total Votes Cast = 469)

- 72 Red Hot Chili' (Michael Sutton)
- 57 'Cat In The Hat' (Paul Black)

Runners Up:

- 40 'Bahama Blues' (Michael Sutton)
- 38 Intoxicating' (Paul Black)
- 35 'Line Drive' (Michael Sutton)
- 24 'Sparkling' (Richard Tasco)
- 23 'Frisky Frolic' (Paul Black)

### **MTB Award Of Merit**

(Total Votes Cast = 377)

- 59 'Tic Tac Toe' (Thomas Johnson)
- 49 'Sari's Dance' (Ginny Spoon)

Runners Up:

- 46 'In My Veins' (Charles Bunnell)
- 44 'Stitched In Blue' (Kenneth Fisher)
- 37 'Florence French' (Mona French)
- 30 'Sun Spirit' (Jim & Vicki Craig)
- 28 'Bit O' Royalty' (Stephanie Markham)

### **SDB Award Of Merit**

(Total Votes Cast = 801)

- 52 'Open Your Eyes' (Paul Black)
- 46 'Nosferatu' (Paul Black)
- 40 'Giggles And Grins' (Carol Coleman)
- 38 'Bombay Sapphire' (Paul Black)
- 38 'Lemon Freeze' (Keith Keppel)

Runners Up:

- 31 'Craisin' (Marky Smith)
- 28 'June Bug' (Donald Spoon)
- 26 'Jellicle Cat' (Paul Black)
- 26 'Tanzanite' (Marky Smith)
- 26 'Teagan' (Donald Spoon)

### **MDB Award Of Merit**

(Total Votes Cast = 167)

- 51 'Cute As A Button' (Paul Black)
- 47 'Be Brief' (Paul Black)

Runners Up:

- 36 'Aquadoodle' (J. T. Aitken)
- 33 'Wee Harry' (Barbara & David Schmieder)



### **AR & AB Award Of Merit**

(Total Votes Cast = 183)

44 'Sand Dancer' (Richard Tasco)

39 'Xerxes' (Lowell Baumunk)

Runners Up:

32 'Byzantine Ruby' (Lowell Baumunk)

23 'Bhutan' (Richard Tasco)

15 'Holy Moley Plum' (Caroline Chacon)

12 'Nordic Sky' (Howard Shockey, Deceased, by Lowell Baumunk)

### **AB Award Of Merit**

(Total Votes Cast = 178)

79 'Brash And Bold' (Paul Black)

57 'Eye To Eye' (Keith Keppel)

Runners Up:

42 'Babylon Prince' (Lowell Baumunk)

### **Species Award Of Merit**

(Total Votes Cast = 88)

32 'Sun Moon Lake' (B. Leroy Davidson, Deceased, By Carla Lankow")

21 'Wildwood Willie' (Michael Iler By Will Plotner)

Runners Up:

20 'Cobblewood Charm' (Darrell Probst)

15 'Snake Bane' (James Waddick)

### **Interspecies Award Of Merit**

(Total Votes Cast = 149)

42 'Okagami' (Hiroshi Shimizu By Carol Warner)

37 'Date With Destiny' (Paul Black)

Runners Up:

36 'Shiryukyo' (Hiroshi Shimizu By Carol Warner)

34 'Tsukiyono' (Hiroshi Shimizu By Carol Warner)

### **CA Award Of Merit**

(Total Votes Cast = 54)

11 'Area Code' (Joseph Ghio)

6 'Foggy Days' (Joseph Ghio)

6 'Multiplicity' (Joseph Ghio)

Runners Up:

5 'Line Drawing' (Joseph Ghio)

4 'Lewis Lawyer' (Adele Lawyer By Terri Hudson)

4 'Mandalay Bay' (Joseph Ghio)

4 'Pacific Dome' (Lois Belardi)

4 'War Zone' (Joseph Ghio)

### **LA Award Of Merit**

(Total Votes Cast = 280)

25 'Edna Grace' (Heather Pryor)

20 'Blue Mountain Mist' (Bernard Pryor)

18 'Cajun Serenade' (Hooker Nichols)

18 'Lafayette Moon' (Hooker Nichols)

Runners Up:

15 'Dark And Dangerous' (Bernard Pryor)

15 'Michigan Belle' (Jill Copeland)

14 'Susan B. Anthony' (Bernard Pryor)

13 'Blue Splatter' (Wayland Rudkin)

12 'Cala' (Ron Betzer)

12 'Cristin Faith' (M. D. Faith)

12 'Little Bronzed' Aussie (Bernard Pryor)

### **Siberian Award Of Merit**

(Total Votes Cast = 403)

66 'Ginger Twist' (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks)

55 'Miss Apple' (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks)

Runners Up:

26 'Dirigo Black Knight' (John White)

24 'Simon Says' (Robert Hollingworth)

23 'Nothing But The Blues' (Robert Hollingworth)

22 'Painted Woman' (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks)

22 'Tall Dark And Handsome' (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks)

### **SPU Award Of Merit**

(Total Votes Cast = 197)

27 'Lemon Chiffon Pie' (Anna & David Cadd)

26 'Missouri Boon' (O. D. Niswonger By M. & J. Wilhoit)

Runners Up:

24 'Line Dancing' (B. Charles Jenkins By Comanche Acres)

24 'Remembering Vic' (Lee Walker)

21 'Walk The Line' (Jim Hedgecock)

20 'Comanche Moon' (Charles Jenkins By Jim Hedgecock)

19 'Some Say It's Pink' (Lee Walker)

### **JI Award Of Merit**

(Total Votes Cast = 181)

24 Evelyn White' (John White)

23 'Angelic Choir' (Chad Harris)

23 'Bob's Choice' (Jill Copeland)

Runners Up:

22 'Cascade Rain' (Chad Harris)

19 'Kimono Silk' (Bob Bauer/John Coble)

18 'Dirigo Garnet' (John White)

17 'Red Tessa' (J. T. Aitken)

16 'First Strike Craola' (Lee Walker)



## TB Honorable Mention

(Total Votes Cast = 7157)

- 61 'Jeanne Clay Plank' (Frederick Kerr)
- 61 'Volcanic Glow' (Keith Keppel)
- 59 'Double Platinum' (Joseph Ghio)
- 58 'Insaniac' (Thomas Johnson)
- 54 'Bravery' (Joseph Ghio)
- 47 'Daring Deception' (Thomas Johnson)
- 46 'Brouhaha' (Joseph Ghio)
- 46 'Dipped In Dots' (Paul Black)
- 44 'Strawberry Shake' (Keith Keppel)
- 44 'Superhero' (Joseph Ghio)
- 38 'Beyond Borders' (Richard Tasco)
- 37 'Day On The Bay' (Joseph Ghio)
- 37 'Fire And Ice' (Paul Black)
- 35 'Note To God' (Thomas Johnson)
- 32 'Sea Cruise' (Keith Keppel)
- 31 'Beth's Blessings' (Tom Burseen)
- 31 'Waterline' (Keith Keppel)
- 30 'Oh Carol' (Larry Lauer)
- 30 'Vanilla Frappé' (Michael Sutton)
- 29 'Dots And Splashes' (Michael Sutton)
- 28 'Adventurous' (Michael Sutton)
- 28 'Baby I Love You' (Paul Black)
- 28 'Calizona Gold' (Margie Valenzuela)
- 28 'Petticoat Shuffle' (Schreiner)
- 27 'Mimosa' (Michael Sutton)
- 27 'Patchwork Puzzle' (Thomas Johnson)
- 27 'Rasputin' (Thomas Johnson)
- 27 'Wink And A Smile' (Paul Black)
- 26 'Absolute Zero' (Paul Black)
- 26 'Beauty Within' (Joseph Ghio)
- 26 'Broke Again' (William Tyson)
- 26 'Murder Mystery' (Paul Black)
- 26 'Teasing Tiger' (John Painter)
- 26 'Under The Boardwalk' (Lesley Painter)
- 25 'Catch A Star' (Schreiner)
- 25 'Gypsy Lady' (Thomas Johnson)
- 25 'Midnight Toccata' (Frederick Kerr)
- 25 'Wicked Good' (Paul Black)
- 24 'Enjoyment' (Joseph Ghio)
- 24 'Go West' (Roger Duncan)
- 24 'Jealous Guy' (Barry Blyth)
- 24 'Joviality' (Keith Keppel)
- 24 'One More Night' (Roger Duncan)
- 24 'Pontificate' (Joseph Ghio)
- 24 'Repertoire' (Thomas Johnson)
- 23 'Act Surprised' (Paul Black)
- 23 'Bratislavan Prince' (Anton Mego)
- 23 'Chenille' (Keith Keppel)
- 23 'Cinque Terre' (Schreiner)
- 23 'Dewuc Whatic' (Tom Burseen)
- 23 'Howling At The Moon' (Lowell Baumunk)
- 23 'No Place Like Home' (Paul Black)
- 23 'Strawberry Freeze' (Thomas Johnson)
- 22 'Blushing' (Paul Black)
- 22 'Desert Moth' (Keith Keppel)
- 22 'Kaelin's Lipstick' (Steve Poole)
- 22 'Magnanimous' (Joseph Ghio)
- 22 'Tail Hook' (Lynda Miller)
- 21 'Abby's Fire' (Steve Poole)

- 21 'Coral Cove' (Michael Sutton)
- 21 'Dangerous Liaison' (Schreiner)
- 21 'First Avenue' (Barry Blyth)
- 21 'Friendly Advice' (Keith Keppel)
- 21 'Glad' (Schreiner)
- 21 'Grateful Red' (Schreiner)
- 21 'Lady Leigh' (Larry Lauer)
- 21 'Passionate Embrace' (Paul Black)
- 21 'Passionate Kisses' (Joseph Ghio)
- 21 'Spendthrift' (Keith Keppel)
- 21 'Totally Tropical' (Thomas Johnson)
- 20 'Alsea Falls' (Schreiner)
- 20 'Celtic Thunder' (Jim Hedgecock)
- 20 'Dancing Ghost' (Thomas Johnson)
- 20 'Flamingo Frenzy' (Thomas Johnson)
- 20 'Made You Look' (Thomas Johnson)
- 20 'Rumor Has It' (Thomas Johnson)
- 20 'Yield' (Paul Black)
- 19 'Advanced Degree' (Paul Black)
- 19 'All Smiles' (Michael Sutton)
- 19 'Are You Crazy' (Paul Black)
- 19 'Autumn Sunburst' (J. T. Aitken)
- 19 'Bluebird Of Happiness' (Paul Black)
- 19 'Class Clown' (Paul Black)
- 19 'Florentine Gold' (Bruce Filardi)
- 19 'Gloriafied Glenn' (Tom Burseen)
- 19 'Hearty Burgundy' (Keith Keppel)
- 19 'Irene's Song' (Barbara Nicodemus)
- 19 'Mad World' (John Painter)
- 19 'Miles Ahead' (Schreiner)
- 19 'Skirt Alert' (Thomas Johnson)
- 19 'Temple Of Lights' (Gerald Richardson)
- 19 'Water Of Life' (Paul Black)
- Runners Up:
- 18 'Autumn In Missouri' (O. D. Niswonger)
- 18 'Cantor' (Thomas Johnson)
- 18 'Common Thread' (Thomas Johnson)
- 18 'Company Red' (Schreiner)
- 18 'Game Player' (Thomas Johnson)
- 18 'Golden Gaga' (Lesley Painter)
- 18 'Orange Splash' (Schreiner)
- 18 'Pageant's Gown' (Lesley Painter)
- 18 'Sweeter Than Honey' (Robert Van Liere)
- 18 'Toast Of The Town' (Paul Black)
- 18 'Wish List' (Paul Black)
- 17 'Bandwidth' (Michael Sutton)
- 17 'Bargain Hunter' (Paul Black)
- 17 'Bev's Babe' (Gerald Richardson)
- 17 'Bohemian Garnets' (Frederick Kerr)
- 17 'Calling Cadence' (Robert Van Liere)
- 17 'Chocolate Halo' (Frederick Kerr)
- 17 'Christmas Eve' (Robert Van Liere)
- 17 'Colorado Expressions' (Robert Van Liere)
- 17 'Inklination' (John Painter)
- 17 'Marching Orders' (Joseph Ghio)
- 17 'Muleshoe Money' (Tom Burseen)
- 17 'Orange Juice' (Michael Sutton)
- 17 'Princess Grace' (Paul Black)
- 17 'Scandinavian Gal' (Thomas Johnson)

- 17 'Spectacle' (Joseph Ghio)
- 17 'Tango To The Moonlight' (Ben Johnson)
- 17 'Team Player' (Thomas Johnson)
- 17 'Tickle Me Pink' (Robert Van Liere)

## BB Honorable Mention

(Total Votes Cast = 379)

- 57 'Boy Genius' (Joseph Ghio)
- 41 'Wild' (Paul Black)
- 39 'What's New Pussycat' (Paul Black)
- Runners Up:
- 28 'Orange Fluorescence' (J. T. Aitken)
- 25 'Dark Wonder' (Richard Tasco)
- 19 'Pass The Pepper' (J. T. Aitken)
- 19 'Pink Puppy' (Donald Spoon)
- 16 'Blueberry Trail'

## IB Honorable Mention

(Total Votes Cast = 539)

- 32 'Safari Sunrise' (Keith Keppel)
- 30 'Revved Up Rose' (Paul Black)
- 29 'Spectator' (Keith Keppel)
- 27 'Italics' (Marky Smith)
- Runners Up:
- 26 'Chilly Willy' (J. T. Aitken)
- 23 'Mandarin Delight' (O. D. Niswonger)
- 22 'I'm On Fire' (Thomas Johnson)
- 22 'What About Me' (Thomas Johnson)
- 20 'Midnight Sharp' (George Sutton)
- 20 'Self Indulgence' (Paul Black)

## MTB Honorable Mention

(Total Votes Cast = 413)

- 66 'Holiday In Mexico' (Riley Probst)
- 34 'Hoosier Belle' (Charles Bunnell)
- 31 'Gesundheit' (Charles Bunnell)
- Runners Up:
- 27 'Carla Beth' (Betty Wyss, Deceased, By Kelly Norris)
- 26 'Speckled Spring' (Stephanie Markham)
- 22 'Pixel Packin' Mama' (Barbara & David Schmieder)
- 20 'Filly Molly' (Kenneth Fisher)
- 18 'Icing' (Stephanie Markham)

## SDB Honorable Mention

(Total Votes Cast = 1582)

- 64 'My Cher' (Paul Black)
- 52 'Raspberry Ice' (Keith Keppel)
- 43 'Look Inside' (Paul Black)
- 31 'Doxie Doodles' (Paul Black)
- 29 'Brash And Sassy' (Thomas Johnson)
- 25 'Chicklet' (Thomas Johnson)
- 24 'Beatnik' (Paul Black)
- 24 'Film Star' (Thomas Johnson)
- 24 'Purple Tiger' (Paul Black)
- 23 'Coconino' (Marky Smith)
- 21 'Blend Of Blue' (J. T. Aitken)
- 20 'Clear Blue Sky' (Thomas Johnson)
- 20 'Coyote Moon' (Richard Tasco)
- 20 'Decorum' (Keith Keppel)
- 20 'Jitters' (Thomas Johnson)
- 19 'Giddy' (Thomas Johnson)



- 18 'Dark Design' (Keith Keppel)  
 18 'Jeopardy' (Paul Black)  
 Runners Up:  
 17 'Granny Apple' (Donald Spoon)  
 17 'Peach Frappuccino' (George Sutton)  
 17 'Petite Ballerina' (Richard Tasco)  
 17 'Ray Jones' (Donald Spoon)  
 17 'Satin Accent' (Keith Keppel)  
 16 'Actor' (Paul Black)  
 16 'Bumpkin' (Marky Smith)  
 16 'Muppet' (Donald Spoon)  
 16 'Purple Zinger' (J. T. Aitken)  
 16 'Worry Wart' (Paul Black)  
 15 'Bad Boys' (Lynda Miller)  
 15 'Burnished' (Jean Morris)  
 15 'Cape May' (Robert Strohman)  
 15 'Energizer Bunny' (Paul Black)  
 15 'Fido' (Paul Black)  
 15 'Into The Sunset' (Paul Black)  
 15 'Little Nugget' (Andrew Sutton)  
 15 'Sky Of Blue' (Paul Black)  
 15 'Star Of India' (Thomas Johnson)

### **MDB Honorable Mention**

(Total Votes Cast = 175)

- 20 'Keep Off' (Paul Black)  
 17 'Brevity' (Keith Keppel)  
 Runners Up:  
 16 'Rivulet' (Keith Keppel)  
 15 'Lotta Dotta' (Donald Spoon)  
 14 'Candy Dragon' (Anita Moran)  
 14 'India Ink' (Donald Spoon)  
 12 'Boink' (J. T. Aitken)  
 12 'Jot' (Lynda Miller)  
 12 'Tiny' Beacon (J. T. Aitken)

### **AR & AB Honorable Mention**

(Total Votes Cast = 123)

- 37 'Rare Breed' (Richard Tasco)  
 19 'New Vision' (Richard Tasco)  
 Runners Up:  
 17 'Eyes On You' (Paul Black)  
 6 'Glittering Garnets' (Donald Eaves By Elm Jensen)  
 6 'Pharaoh's Host' (Walter Moores)  
 5 'Arabian Sun' (Peter McGrath)  
 5 'Mean Mr. Mustard' (Peter McGrath)

### **AB Honorable Mention**

(Total Votes Cast = 72)

- 35 'Golden Compass' (Thomas Johnson)  
 20 'De Nile' (Brad Kasperek)  
 Runners Up:  
 9 'Feeling Sorta Blue' (Donald Eaves By Elm Jensen)  
 8 'Bewildered Blue Butterfly' (Caroline Chacon)

### **Species Honorable Mention**

(Total Votes Cast = 80)

- 11 'Cloud Of Dragons' (Anita Moran)  
 11 'Exeter' (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks)  
 Runners Up:

- 10 'Firefly Shuffle' (Karen Perkins)  
 7 'Winter Echoes' (Richard Tasco)  
 7 'Zzyzx' (Richard Richards)  
 6 'Lockport' (Bernard McSparrin)  
 6 'Sycamore' (Bernard McSparrin)

### **Interspecies Honorable Mention**

(Total Votes Cast = 172)

- 18 'Yukiyanagi' (Hiroshi Shimizu By Carol Warner)  
 16 'China Mauve' (O. D. Niswonger)  
 15 'Yasha' (Hiroshi Shimizu By Carol Warner)

Runners Up:

- 14 'Yarai' (Hiroshi Shimizu By Carol Warner)  
 13 'Kurokawa-Noh' (J. T. Aitken)  
 12 'Summer Candy' (Darrell Probst)  
 11 'Takamagahara' (Hiroshi Shimizu By Carol Warner)  
 8 'Fourfold Wine' (Tomas Tamberg)  
 8 'Soft Spot' (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks)

### **CA Honorable Mention**

(Total Votes Cast = 58)

- 8 'Going Bananas' (Joseph Ghio)  
 6 'Air Waves' (Joseph Ghio)  
 6 'Da Vinci Code' (Joseph Ghio)  
 Runners Up:  
 5 'Costanoa' (Joseph Ghio)  
 5 'Open Eyes' (Joseph Ghio)  
 4 'Red Flag Warning' (Joseph Ghio)  
 3 'Chualar' (Joseph Ghio)  
 3 'Wandering Eye' (Joseph Ghio)

### **LA Honorable Mention**

(Total Votes Cast = 281)

- 29 'Deja Voodoo' (Patrick O'Connor)  
 14 'Gris Gris' (Patrick O'Connor)  
 13 'Southern Star' (Heather Pryor)  
 13 'Texas Toast' (Joseph Mertzweiller, Deceased, by Marie Caillet)  
 12 'Katrina Dog' (Patrick O'Connor)  
 12 'Ride For Dixie' (M. & J. Wilhoit)  
 Runners Up:  
 11 'Kakadu Sunset' (Heather Pryor)  
 11 'Morgan's Dixie' (M. & J. Wilhoit)  
 10 'Dick's Legacy' (M. D. Faith)  
 10 'Secret Rendezvous' (Heather Pryor)  
 9 'Duck Lady' (Patrick O'Connor)  
 9 'Pontchartrain Beach' (Patrick O'Connor)

### **SIB Honorable Mention**

(Total Votes Cast = 532)

- 33 'Concord Crush' (Bob Bauer/John Coble)  
 33 'Cream Of Tomato' (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks)  
 31 'Blueberry Brandy' (Bob Bauer/John Coble)  
 30 'Cinnamon Sugar' (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks)  
 30 'Sandy River Belle' (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks)  
 25 'Flying Fiddles' (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks)

Runners Up:

- 24 'Dance Party' (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks)  
 22 'Unbuttoned Zippers' (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks)  
 21 'Fiona' (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks)  
 18 'Moonlight Fair' (Robert Hollingworth)  
 16 'My Little Sunshine' (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks)  
 16 'Sweeter Still' (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks)

### **SPU Honorable Mention**

(Total Votes Cast = 160)

- 17 'Chocolate Rosette' (O. D. Niswonger By M. & J. Wilhoit)  
 17 'Lilting Lavender' (J. T. Aitken)  
 17 'Sky Dancer' (Jim Hedgecock)  
 Runners Up:  
 16 'Cast Of Green' (J. T. Aitken)  
 14 'Moonless Night' (Joseph Ghio By Jim Hedgecock)  
 12 'Klondike Dreams' (Lee Walker)  
 10 'Backlit' (Jim Hedgecock)  
 9 'Piper May' (B. Charles Jenkins By Jim Hedgecock)

### **JI Honorable Mention**

(Total Votes Cast = 234)

- 23 'Indigo Angel' (Bob Bauer/John Coble)  
 19 'Red Repeater' (J. T. Aitken)  
 17 'Neptune's Trident' (Chad Harris)  
 16 'Dalle Whitewater' (Chad Harris)  
 Runners Up:  
 15 'Celestial Emperor' (Chad Harris)  
 13 'Victorian Trim' (Bob Bauer/John Coble)  
 12 'Artesian Spring' (Chad Harris)  
 12 'Craola Fiesta' (Lee Walker)  
 11 'Dirigo Editor' (John White)



# Iris Virus

BY EVA FAUGHT, ILLINOIS

*Original article published in the July 1949 issue of the AIS Bulletin.*

*Iris* virus is an epidemic disease of man caused by a specific virus which is transmitted from person to person through its intermediate host, the genus *Iris*.

*Iris* virus seems to have been little known until about twenty years ago and then it ran a very mild course. Since that time, its infectivity and virulence have increased at a rapid rate. According to the records of 1948, there are now in the neighborhood of four thousand known cases scattered throughout the United States, Canada, England, Australia, Europe and Africa.

There are several strains of the virus. Along the swamps and bayous of the southern United States we find an ever increasing number of cases of virus *fulva*, virus *foliosa*, virus *giganticaerulea* and virus *hexagona*. But virus *sibirica*, virus *spuria* and virus *tall-beardia* are widely scattered throughout the United States. Virus *tall-beardia* is now very scarce in the deep South but it is likely to assume epidemic proportions there just as soon as tall bearded irises that can withstand the diseases of moist hot climates are developed.

The onset of iris virus can usually be traced directly to a visit to a spring flower show, to a garden tour, to the receipt of a gorgeously illustrated iris catalog or to a long look over or through a neighbor's fence. Yes, some lucky people still have tight board fences, complete with padlock on the gate. How useful they are securing not only protection but sometimes just a little privacy.

Cases of iris virus are hard to locate. Those infected tend to flock together in groups for the purpose of "patch" talk, of admiration and perhaps of a little envy of one another's newest creations. They attend regional and national meetings, visit gardens busily taking notes about this and that, talking to themselves and to others in the mumbo-jumbo jargon or Irisland.

But home returned with a "Booster" shot of virus in their veins, they are again introverted individualists with a feverish desire to achieve a collection of the Best One Hundred, the Best Two Hundred, the Best Three Hundred, all of the Dykes Medal winners and all of the others which they have selected as Must Haves which are not on the foregoing lists, and then they begin to cross and cross and cross and to dig and dig and dig in the hope of producing a world beater. No time or energy is left for talking or for thinking of anything except a bigger and better iris. There is time for no one except possibly another iris virus victim. The health officer can locate his patient only by a canvass of garden plots and a study of their contents. In case of a high board fence with a padlock on its gate, a helicopter would be indispensable.

There is no known method of alleviating the disease. There is no known method of acquiring immunity. The only possible immunity is of the natural variety and strangely enough some people do seem to remain naturally immune throughout life though that is not properly understood at the present time. It would seem that a little research into the problem might prove both interesting and profitable.

Thus far the only possible method of prevention of iris virus is to so isolate or quarantine those not naturally immune that they can have no slightest contact visual or otherwise with any species of the genus *Iris*.

The prognosis is poor. There is seldom any abatement of the fever—no cure at all for the disease. The fortunate victim of *Iris* virus lives on year after year eagerly anticipating April, May and June. The Season—*Iris* Season, of course. He rides or he flies from south to north, from west to east or in contrary directions depending upon his location, feverishly trying to miss no section, no known iris garden, and there have come to be an astonishing number of iris gardens in these United States of ours!

Somewhere along the route he snatches a day or two to visit his own iris garden and make a few crosses with pollen gathered on the Pacific Coast, in New England, in the South, in the Middle West or perhaps with some flown in from England or from Australia.

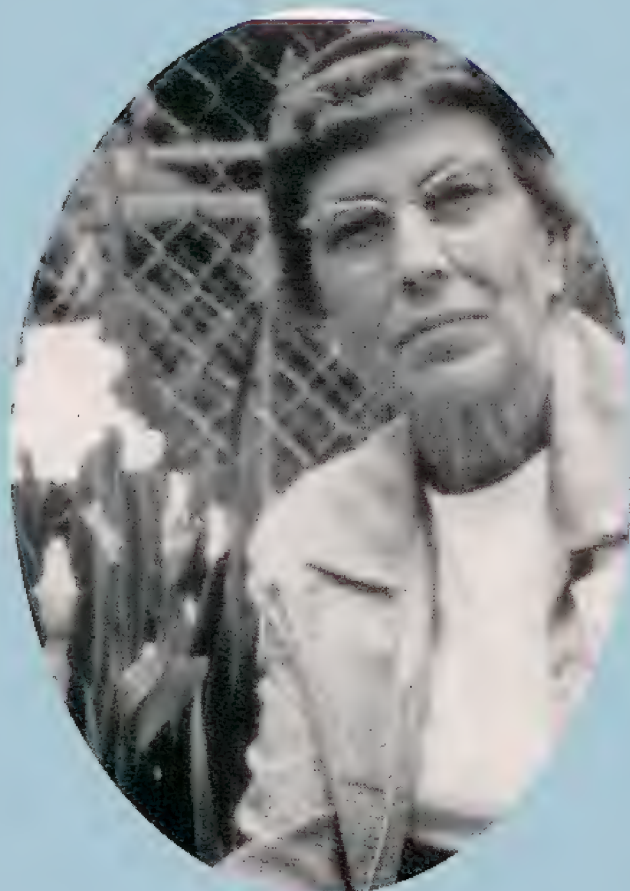
*Iris* virus may confer upon him the gift of immortality for really when would there be time to die? He must be here next spring and next spring ad infinitum to see that perfect iris which he knows is in one of those beautiful seed pods ripening out there in the patch under a hot July sun.

*Iris* virus, may it become pandemic! ❀



# *Eva Faught and Georgia Hinkle, Illinois Hybridizers*

BY EDITED AND COMPILED KATHLEEN SONNTAG



Georgia Hinkle (photo on left taken in 1966 when she was awarded the Hybridizers' Medal for her "outstanding contributions to the development of tall bearded irises." *AIS Bulletin*, Fall 1977) had been introduced to iris hybridizing by Eva Faught of Carbondale, Illinois, a town about four miles west of Marion where Georgia lived. It would be difficult, if not impossible, to describe the accomplishments of these two hybridizers without discussing them together.

Miss Faught was born in Shelbyville, Illinois. She spent her early professional years as a bacteriologist in Springfield, and relocated to Carbondale, Illinois, when the new offices of the State Department of Health were located there. It was there that she created a garden.



Eva began breeding irises, especially blue irises, in 1936. According to Georgia, she had relied heavily upon irises obtained from the work of Sidney B. Mitchell of California, who had carried on the breeding work of his friend and neighbor, William Mohr. It was through her antique business that Georgia met Eva sometime in the 1940s.

Eva Faught was a very harsh critic of her own creations, and is said to have carried a machete with her during bloom season, ruthlessly slashing varieties to the ground that did not meet her exacting standards. She was a prolific hybridizer and planted out thousands of seedlings each year, few of which she registered.

While most of the Faught introductions have faded into memory, two are still talked about and also contributed to the evolution of the modern tall bearded blue irises. The light blue 'Pierre Menard' (Faught 1948 HM) and its more renowned sibling 'Cahokia' (Faught 1948) brought her renown and a place in iris history. So it was that Eva Faught, the bacteriologist, trained Georgia Hinkle to hybridize irises and passed on to Georgia the philosophy of line breeding as a potent tool to change the appearance of an organism. The organism being modified was, in this case, the tall bearded iris.

Eva introduced irises through the 1940s and 1950s. In 1955, she traveled abroad to England and then to South Africa, where she visited with her sister. A few years later she retired and moved to Cuernavaca, Mexico, where she built a small home in the style of the Midwest. She passed away in 1978 at the age of 90.

*The following is an excerpt from the article by Lorenzo Medrano (source #3)*

At the Memphis national convention of the AIS in 1957, one iris which created quite a sensation was 'Regina Maria'. The originator was a certain Mrs. Hinkle. Later in the year, this iris won an Award of Merit. Another earlier Hinkle iris, 'Zara', received an Award of Merit in England. Two more Hinkle introductions besides 'Regina Maria' were equally honored in this country. 'Melissa' won second prize in the competition in Florence, Italy, in 1959. In 1962, also at Florence, three Hinkle irises won second, third, and fourth prizes. This is a unique record for any breeder. Who, then, is Mrs. Hinkle? What are her breeding methods? Why are most of her irises white or blue?

Some artists possess the virtue of disappearing behind the product of their artistry. The personality of the artist is not interposed between the viewer and the artistic creation itself. One such is the personality of Georgia Hinkle. Beauty for her is not a servant but a goddess to serve. To produce beauty, not a hobby but a necessity.



In 1935, there she is, in her small garden, where she has hundreds of irises, but only three colors: dirty white, muddy yellow, and washed-out blue. Her inner sense of beauty rebels against this state of affairs. She wants a pure white, a golden yellow, a clear blue. Did they exist? Was it at all possible to obtain them through a breeding process?

Unknown to her, and only four miles distant from her home is the garden of Miss Eva Faught. A friend persuades her to make the trip to the Faught garden. How could Mrs. Hinkle suspect that such a short trip would change the course of her life forever? (In the Faught garden) "it was the first time," Mrs. Hinkle has written to a friend, "I saw 'modern' irises; and they were the most beautiful things ever seen, every color in the rainbow! It started me on an iris spree that hasn't ended." And yet, Mrs. Hinkle was not satisfied. Perhaps a more flaring white with better branching was possible. Maybe blues nearer spectrum blue could be produced. "So, I went home," Mrs. Hinkle has since then written, "ordered 'Jake', 'Purissima', and 'Snow King', and planted them along with the three varieties that I had. When these bloomed, pods were set, seeds planted. But instead of the beautiful whites I had dreamed of, there was a new generation of dirty blues and whites!"

Mrs. Hinkle is disappointed, but this setback makes her firmer in her determination to produce those beautiful whites "she had dreamed." This work in the dark, without any apparent success, lasted for six or seven years. In that spring, another visit to Miss Faught was made, and this time Miss Faught gives her two white seedlings of her own, K-22-1 and 19-H. Miss Faught also gives her 'Pierre Menard' and 'Cahokia' to guest, with her permission to use them in her breeding program.

With these new weapons, the fight is engaged in earnest. The first task will be to cross the two Faught white seedlings (22-K-1 X 19-H), in order to produce her first good white. Two years later, in the spring of 1950, the white iris she expected opened its first bud and it was a beautiful iris indeed: 'Zara', a medium blue! Her overriding desire had made Mrs. Hinkle forget the blue blood present in both white seedlings from Miss Faught. Also, her beginner's luck gave her 'Zara', introduced in 1954. Although it went unnoticed in this country, it was given an Award of Merit in England. Selfing 22-K-1, she finally obtained the first white she was after, and which received the only possible name: 'First Affection'. This iris, although pure white and of good form, was considered only a step forward towards her ultimate goal, the perfect white, and was not introduced.

In her blue line, 'Zara', with pollen brought by a friendly bee, produced another medium blue of wide popularity, 'Melissa'. 'Cahokia' crossed 'Azure Skies' gives Mrs. Hinkle another working iris, the light blue C-24-1, while 'First Affection' crossed to this C-24-1, produces still another white, E-27-1. The other Faught iris, 'Pierre Menard', appears in her blue line only once, as the pod parent of one of her most famous iris, the light blue ruffled 'Regina Maria'.

The lines are now established. Her white line brings out 'New Love' ('First Affection' X 19-H), and the white nearest perfect: 'Curl'd Cloud' (E-27-1 X E-29-1). To which we must add 'Le Beau' and 'Village Green'. At the same time, the blue line is producing the clear, neat blue tones Mrs. Hinkle so much desired, and for which she is justly famous: 'Helen Novak' ('Zara' X 'Regina Maria') and her sister seedling, 'Demetria'. 'Symphony', a very light blue creation, is C-24-1 X 'Melissa', while her newest blue, registered in 1962, 'Harlan', is 'Allegiance' X 'Symphony'.

If it is true that no one knows for whom the bells toll, it is equally true that no one knows the secret currents and undercurrents, the personal influences that go into the making of one what one is. The same holds true of the career of an iris breeder. The credit for the creation of her beautiful irises belongs only to Mrs. Hinkle. And yet, her inspiration and her final drive were given her by that extraordinary person, Miss Faught. Mrs. Hinkle's first good iris, as we have seen, is the product of two Faught seedlings. 'Pierre Menard' is the pod parent of that epitome of grace and good taste, 'Regina Maria'. When Mrs. Hinkle confronted Miss Faught with these facts, and how much she owed her, Miss Faught dismissed the idea curtly, if with plenty of savoir faire, answering, "We all climb the ladder of success on someone else's back."

#### *Georgia Hinkle on qualities she values in irises (source #4)*

"The qualities I have been working for in the blues as well as the white and pink varieties are: First, substance. Without substance none of the other qualities are of any benefit. Second, form of flower-wide hafts; broad falls are usually accompanied by proportionate standards, which gives the appearance of a full, "fat" flower. Third, branching and stalk. Of course, there are many other quality points to aim for, but of the three listed, substance is an absolute necessity. Somewhat high branching and various flower forms are acceptable IF pleasing to the eye, but the flower must be able to hold through sun, rain and a reasonable amount of wind, or it belongs in the compost rather than in the garden." ❀



Sources:

1. Archive photos of Eva Faught and Georgia Hinkle compliments of AIS Librarian, Dave Silverberg
2. *World of Irises* blog, December 23, 2013 *Classic Hybridizers: Eva Faught* by Mike Unser
3. *Mostly about Georgia Hinkle* by Lorenzo Medrano, *AIS Bulletin*, January 1963
4. *Breeding for Blue Irises*, Georgia Hinkle, *AIS Bulletin* October 1966
5. *Iris Odyssey*, Geddes Douglas, *AIS Bulletin* July 1948



"Cahokia" (Faught 1948)  
Photo by Mike Unser

'Cahokia'

Receiving instant acclaim, it went on to be used extensively as a breeding iris and it has left a long and delightful legacy of descendants. It is in the background of such luminaries as 'Rippling Waters' (DM 1966), 'Whole Cloth' (DM 1962), 'Babbling Brook' (DM 1972), and 'Mystique' (DM 1980), along with countless numbers of Award of Merit winners. Schreiner's used it heavily in the development of their blue lines. (From *World of Irises* blog, April 7, 2012 by Mike Unser)



'Babbling Brook' (Keppel 1966) DM 1972  
Photo by Schreiner's



"Mystique" (Ghio 1975) DM 1980  
Photo by Jan Lauritzen



# *In Search of the Pink Ground Plicata:*



My interest in *Iris* began in 1990 in the high desert of Santa Fe, New Mexico. I found large clumps of historic iris growing in the garden of our wonderful older apartment. Though I had done some gardening as a teenager, I knew very little about *Iris* and assumed that all irises were small and purple. I was pleasantly surprised when the well-established clumps bloomed, as their flowers were colorful, patterned and fragrant. When I discovered seed pods forming on some of the bloom stalks, I went to the local library and found a book published by The American Iris Society. I was most intrigued to learn that when *Iris* are grown from seed, the bloom may not be the same as the parent; and depending on the lineage of that parentage, there can be a great diversity in the patterns within the progeny.

At the same time, a neighbor told me about a place south of Santa Fe that the locals referred to as "The Iris Ranch" The following summer we drove out to the sleepy town of Cerrillos, turned up into the Ortiz mountains along the bumpy, dusty gold mine road and discovered the breathtaking view of four acres of modern tall bearded iris in peak bloom set against the backdrop of the Sangre de Cristo mountains with the Santa Fe Valley far below. It was a revelation!

I was soon spending afternoons at the ranch and got to know the iris well. I had access to their library of old AIS bulletins and catalogs, so I scoured the pages for articles on hybridizing, copied the best ones, and then read and reread them. I fanaticized that it might be fun to try to create a horned pink plicata and devised a plan to achieve it. Monty Byers had been achieving great success with horned and reblooming cultivars, many of which were plicatas, and I avidly studied the pages of his Moonshine Gardens catalogs. (Anyone who has read these catalogs will understand when I say that Monty was effusive in describing the hybrids he achieved and how he achieved them).

Monty used 'Sky Hooks' (Osborne 1980) heavily and declared it to be an excellent parent for horned progeny. When I studied its family history, I discovered that both plicata and pink iris were used to create it. I was naively confident that this would be a good plant to start with and crossed it to the most exciting plicata available to me at the time, 'Queen in Calico' (Gibson 1980).

None of the resulting plants showed the plicata pattern trait and most of them were muddy and not very attractive. One plant shined out above the rest. That first seedling, 1094-A, was a bright orange with clear red tangerine beards sporting nice medium horns. Though it was a bit narrow and had a muddy purplish wash in the haft area, 1094-A was a beacon of hope.

We moved to Virginia and I set about preparing a new garden. The following year I was able to make the cross ('Fancy Woman' x 1094-A). I chose 'Fancy Woman' (Keppel, 1995) for three reasons. First, if I were going to improve its progeny, I knew that 1094-A needed to be crossed to something with better form, and 'Fancy Woman' is a wonderful modern-formed luminata. Second, I understood that plicata and luminata patterns were linked genetically, with the luminata pattern recessive to plicata. Finally, as Keith explained in his catalog description, 'Fancy Woman' was proving to be a good parent! Anyone who tries his hand at hybridizing will quickly find out that not all iris are good breeding iris.

Out of that cross, twenty-four plants bloomed. Some were muddy plicatas, while others were self colored; three were pure white (with poor branching), and one, the very last to bloom, 2000-S, was a wonderful pink with bright yellow/orange beards and seven to eight buds. It was my observation that the seedling 2000-S showed a strong pink ground while subtly exhibiting both the luminata and plicata traits. It was the first pink ground luminata/plicata that I had ever seen. The following spring, I had three stalks with nicely spaced buds coming up out of a clump of healthy fans. Unfortunately, as the bloom time approached, so did the rain. It rained so much that it was nearly impossible to find a clear, dry afternoon in which to make crosses. On the rare days that the sun was out, it was hard to find a fresh, dry flower to work with.

In the entire season, only two crosses with 2000-S actually set seed. Sadly, as the seed pods matured, the rain intensified. I counted over twenty-three days of heavy, soaking rain and anxiously watched as one iris after another began to wither



# A Hybridizer's Adventure

BY J. PAUL HILL, NEW MEXICO

and die from rot. One soggy morning, I found its stalks on the ground. 2000-S was gone! I realized that in order to move forward with this new ground coloring, I had to save the seed. I placed the stalks on a dry, windowsill indoors and hoped for the best.

Next we moved to Atlanta. When the seedlings of my cross 1804-(2000-S x Silk Brocade) bloomed, I was stunned by the amazing variety of patterns and ground colors that resulted! With strong form and fully expressed pink ground, 1804-A was the most finished and beautiful. I began making crosses with it right away, but persistent rains came again and the temperatures moved into the high 80's. Almost all of the 1804 seedlings died, including 1804-A. Only three seedlings from this cross survived, and they were the only three that did not bloom that first year. They bloomed the following spring.

One of the surviving plants, 1804-2A, is a purple luminata/plicata with clear pink ground tones on the falls. It has a few problems with branching, but to this day it has never shown signs of rot. Its sib, 1804-2C is pure luminata with large flowers and nice branching, but, sadly, it is a slow grower. Though it has never had more than two bloom stalks out in a season, it is proving to be a good parent with improved seedlings.

The best of 1904 was introduced by Winterberry Gardens in 2014 as 'Whisper Game'. 2000-S: (1094-A: ('Queen in Calico' x 'Sky Hooks') x 'Fancy Woman') X 'Fogbound'

It is proving to be an exciting parent for the recovery of the pink ground line. In just one generation I was able to achieve a blue plicata seedling with a strong pink ground coloring, 1809-B ('Whisper Game' x 706-2D).

Another exciting plant to come from the cross of 1904 (2000-S x Fogbound) is 1904-B. It has clear medium pink stands and white falls rimmed with orange tones near the haft area. The tangerine beards are tipped blue and end in consistent white horns. 1904-B will be introduced by Winterberry Gardens in 2015 as 'Beverly Morningstar'.

My very first seedling, that muddy orange with tangerine beards, has not only been the foundation behind everything I have achieved with my pink ground lines, it has also been a successful parent when crossed to many other plicata lines. My most recent median introduction is 'Ricochet Romance', 1094-A x 'Amusing', in 2013.

In 2013, Atlanta experienced five solid months of heavy rains and high temperatures. Unfortunately, ninety percent of my seedlings were lost to rot. Thankfully, all of my key seedlings survived the rains *and* I have a box of envelopes with iris seed harvested before the deluge began. In August 2014, we returned to the dryer, beloved ground of New Mexico. The adventure continues. ❀



*J. Paul Hill is an artist who has been hybridizing iris for 20 years  
All photos by J. Paul Hill.*







Close up: 'Color Carnival' by Abigail Lubowicki, Ohio (youth)  
Field: "Iris in a Home Garden" by Victoria Van Klompenburg, Arizona (youth)

People (below, left-right):  
"Gathering Blossoms" by Susanne Holland, Spicker, Utah  
"Hands in Luebkins" by Victoria Van Klompenburg, Arizona (youth)

# 2014 Photo Contest Winners







Landscape (above)  
 "Yellow Spuria Evening" by Delane Langton, Montana

Field (below)  
 'Cosmic Celebration' by Kim Ung, Virginia

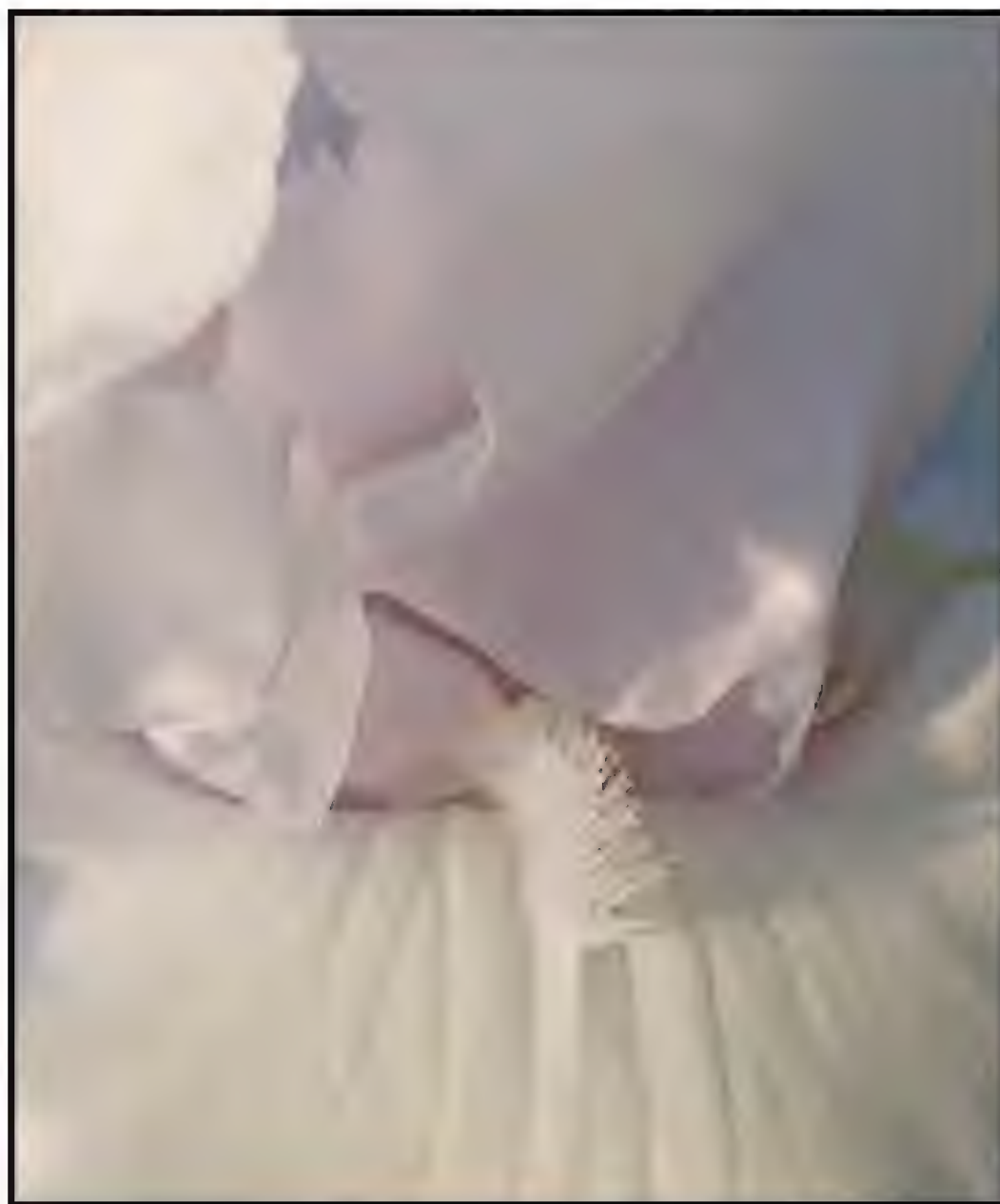






Effects (top-bottom, left)  
 "Iris in Detail" by Susan Bailey, North Carolina  
 'Got Milk' by Andra Braban, Romania (youth)

Wildlife (top-bottom, right)  
 "Living with Enemies" by Coro Martin, Spain  
 "Industrial Iris with Grasshopper" by Sarah Coomer, Texas (youth)







Close-Up: 'Phil Edinger' by Eric Hunt, Arkansas

*Congratulations to all participants in the 2014 AIS Photo Contest. We had entries from France, Romania, Poland, Italy, and Spain as well as United States. There were a total of 93 adult participants and 7 youth; a total of 395 photos. All of the winning photos are posted on the AIS website.*

*Thank you to this year's judges Elledan McLeester, Judy Keisling and Jan Lauritzen. Job well done and thank you for being so quick.*

*A huge thanks to Bonnie Nichols and the Dallas Convention team for providing rhizomes to the winners.*

*See you next year!*

*Janet Smith, Photo Contest Coordinator*



**Check out the AIS Blog!**

<http://theamericanirissociety.blogspot.com/>



# An Iris By Any Other Name

BY JOHN JONES AND JOANNE PRASS-JONES, CALIFORNIA, CO-REGISTRAR/RECORDERS

While new botanical species of the genus *Iris* must be named according to the rules and procedures of the international scientific community, the rules for naming new horticultural irises are governed by the *International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants*, an international treaty, with additional guidelines established by the Board of Directors of The American Iris Society (AIS), which administers the Code for non-bulbous cultivars of *Iris*. The AIS Registrar manages these responsibilities for the Society.

A quick guide to naming an iris may be useful. The formal name of an iris consists of the name of the genus, *Iris*, plus an "epithet." This epithet—'Stairway to Heaven', or 'Shaker's Prayer', for example—will be the name most often used to refer to the iris. When choosing the ideal name for your wonderful new iris, there are a number of things you should consider.

New cultivar names must generally be in a modern language, and they must be unique within the denomination class. Confirming that a proposed name is, in fact, unique is one of the major duties that we as the Registrars must perform. This is not always simple or straightforward, and there are potential pitfalls, as you will see below.

1. The rules of composing a name allow you to use or make up any word or words you wish, but the name will not be allowed if it is likely to cause confusion with an existing approved name with regard to either spelling or pronunciation. For example:
  - Simple plurals (Bright Note and Bright Notes)
  - Homophones (Bright and Brite)
  - Homonyms (Flare and Flair)
  - Slight variations of previously registered names
2. The name will not be allowed if it could be interpreted as likely to exaggerate the merits or characteristics of the cultivar.
  - Littlest Blue
  - Heaviest Lace
  - Best Ever Black
3. Names may not be composed of adjectives that could be construed as a simple description of the unregistered iris, because that description may, over time, prove inaccurate.
  - Late Pink
  - Pale Blue
  - Ruffled
4. Names may have no more than four (4) words nor more than thirty (30) characters, not including spaces.
5. Names may not be in Latin, or in Latinized form, unless it can be demonstrated that the word or words are current in a language other than Latin as commonly used phrases, terms, personal names, or place names, such as:
  - Caveat
  - Illuminati
  - Non sequitur
6. Do not use any of the following words or their equivalents, or the plural forms thereof, in any language, in your proposed name: "hybrid", "cultivar", "grex", "group", "form", "maintenance", "mixture", "selection", "sport", "strain", "series", "variety" or the words "improved", and "transformed."
7. Names which include fractions, symbols, non-essential punctuation or abbreviations will not be allowed.
8. Do not use single letters or single numerals, or combinations of a single letter or a single numeral with any punctuation mark.
9. Only the following punctuation marks may be used: apostrophe, comma, hyphen, and full-stop (period). A maximum of two exclamation marks (!) may be included in a name, but they may not be adjacent.
10. Make sure your name does not contain the Latin or the common (vernacular) name of the genus. Names which contain the word "iris", "flag", the name of any recognized species of *Iris*, or names which are formed wholly by recombining parts of the parental species' names, will not be approved.
11. Names comprised of a person's name and also any of the following forms of address or their equivalent in other languages: Mr., Mrs., Miss, Ms., will not be allowed.
12. Names of living persons may not be used without their written consent. The names of persons deceased within past ten years may not be used without the permission of their next of kin, or other authority.
13. Names may not begin with the articles "a" or "the" or their equivalent in other languages, unless required by linguistic custom.
14. Names may not contain the originating hybridizer's name in the possessive form. (Green Pastures is acceptable, Green's Pastures is not).
15. Names which are close literal translations from another language are not allowed. They should be transliterated as necessary.
16. Previously registered names may be re-used if (a) the originally registered iris has not been



- introduced or distributed under that name; (b) that iris was not listed by name as a parent in a registration; and (c) a release is obtained from the original registrant.
17. Names will not be released as obsolete unless (a) no stock now exists; (b) the iris was not listed by name as a parent in a registration; (c) and no previous re-issue has been done.

You can reserve a name ahead of registration. The best way to handle your requests for name approval is to send the desired name(s) along with appropriate payment to the AIS Registrar's Office. Then, if the names are available for use, we will enter them in our records as reserved for you, and send you a prepaid registration form. If a name is not available, we can resolve the issue together through correspondence. Email is often the fastest way to resolve questions.

A reserved name is good for the rest of the current registration year, which ends on November 30, and for three (3) additional years. This means that a reservation made now will not expire until December 1, 2017.

The fee for reserving a name is the same as, and also functions as, the registration fee. Once the reserve fee is paid, there is no further fee to register an iris under that same name if registration is finalized before the reserve period ends. However, if a reservation expires, then the usual registration fee will again be required to register that name.

All these rules serve to ensure the name you select is both lucid, and as unique as your unique new iris, which that name will identify—uniquely! 🌸

Effective 1 Dec 2014 the fee to register, reserve, or transfer an iris name will be as follows:

- For the period from 1 Dec of the registration year through 30 June of the registration year, the fee will be \$15 for North America and \$10 if registered through an Associate Registrar in a non-North American country.
- For the period from 1 July of the registration year through 30 Nov of the registration year the fee will be \$20 for North America and \$15 if registered through an Associate Registrar in a non-North American country.

|                                                                                      | Registration date    | Fee Amount |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|------------|
| North America Registration                                                           | 1 December - 30 June | \$15       |
|                                                                                      | 1 July -30 November  | \$20       |
| Registration through foreign Associate Registrar (plus local area registration fees) | 1 December - 30 June | \$10       |
|                                                                                      | 1 July -30 November  | \$15       |

All payments must be post marked or made by Paypal payment (non-North American registrants only) by the end date of the respective period to qualify for the associated fee.



# Bequests, Contributions, Donations, Honorariums, Memorials and Trusts

BY CHERYL DEATON, DONATIONS DEVELOPMENT CHAIR

There are many ways people can give to their favorite charity. The American Iris Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation so gifts are tax deductible if you itemize deductions on your tax return. You shouldn't just consider the taxable consequences of your gift. I was surprised to learn that seven out of ten people die without leaving a will. That means they had no say in how their estate was distributed.

If you are downsizing your home, take a look at your "iris artifacts." Donate those iris collectables to your region or to the AIS Spring Convention for a silent auction. The AIS library is interested in your iris books, periodicals, catalogs and photos. Thousands of slides have been donated by hybridizers or their families and are being digitized for the AIS archives.

One more thing: be sure the irises in your garden will go to a good home when you are no longer around to care for them. There are individuals, community gardens, botanical gardens and perhaps a school garden that would benefit from all or part of your collection. Some can also be donated to an AIS silent auction. 🌸

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Photo Contest Runner-Up Effects: Wild Lone Iris,  
by Sarah Coomer, Texas (youth)



# Donations to the AIS and the AIS Foundation

## June 1, 2014–August 31, 2014

### IN MEMORY OF FUND CODE

|                                       |      |
|---------------------------------------|------|
| Alice Clark (CA)                      |      |
| Clara B. Rees Iris Society (CA)       | GEN  |
| Margie Dickerson (CA)                 |      |
| Clara B. Rees Iris Society (CA)       | GEN  |
| Mike Lowe (VA)                        |      |
| AIS Region 4                          | ENCY |
| Clarence Mahan (VA)                   |      |
| AIS Region 4                          | LIB  |
| Eileen Fiumara (CA)                   |      |
| San Fernando Valley Iris Society (CA) | AISG |
| Mary O'Connor Young (ME)              |      |
| Maine Iris Society (ME)               | GEN  |
| Phyllis Pennell (OK)                  |      |
| Lawton Area Friends of Iris Soc (OK)  | AISG |
| Melody Wilhoit (IL)                   |      |
| Robert Treadway (AR)                  | AISG |
| Prairie Iris Society (IL)             | GYF  |
| AIS Region 9                          | GYF  |
| Stephanie Thomas Brumeloe (GA)        |      |
| Georgia Iris Society (GA)             | AISG |
| Aileen Smith (OK)                     |      |
| Tulsa Area Iris Society (OK)          | AISG |
| Irvin Pocklington (IL)                |      |
| AIS Region 9                          | GYF  |

### How-to Make Your Donation to One of the AIS or AIS Foundation Funds

The AIS Foundation is managing donations collection on behalf of the AIS. Donations made for AIS causes, through the AIS Foundation, are immediately available to the AIS, and the tax benefits to the individual or organization are the same.

### Clearly identify on a separate piece of paper:

1. The recipient of the memorial or honor.
2. The AIS Fund or AIS Foundation Fund to which you wish the donation to be credited. Your AIS donation will be reallocated to the AIS Fund you specify even though you are making your check out to the AIS Foundation.
3. The name of person(s) or organization making the donation.
4. The address of person(s) to notify that a donation has been made.

### Please make ALL checks payable to: THE AIS FOUNDATION

Mail to:

Gary E. White  
AIS Foundation Sec/Treas  
701 Old Cheney Road  
Lincoln, NE 68512-1168

### GIFTS FUND CODE

|                                      |             |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| Wichita Area Iris Club (KS)          | GEN         |
| Iris Growers of Eastern Indiana (IN) | 100th ANNIV |
| E. Jay Holcomb (PA)                  | AISG        |

### The AIS Foundation

LIB = Library Fund  
R&S = Research & Scholarship  
GEN = Foundation General Fund

### The AIS

CCYA = Clark Cosgrove Youth Award Fund  
AISG = AIS General Fund  
GYF = General Youth Fund  
INS = AIS Insurance Defrayment  
100th ANNIV = AIS 100th Anniversary Fund  
ENCY = AIS Online Encyclopedia Fund

[www.aisfoundation.org](http://www.aisfoundation.org)



*On behalf of The American Iris Society, we extend our condolences and respects to the families and friends of these deceased iris lovers.*

|                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Linda K Smyser        | Fort Worth, Texas     |
| Charles Conklin       | Springfield, Virginia |
| Tracy Plotner         | Molalla, Oregon       |
| Mrs Donald R Peterson | Columbus, Nebraska    |
| Bethany Young         | Newburgh, Maine       |
| Nancy Fernandes       | Granbury, Texas       |
| Evelyn M Wallman      | APO AE                |
| Alice J Clark         | San Jose, California  |
| Helen E Reynolds      | El Dorado, Kansas     |
| Anna Hahn             | Desloge, Missouri     |





'Lemon Curd' (William Godfrey, winner HM 2003)  
Photo by Schmieder

## AIS Insurance

BY MICHELLE SNYDER, INSURANCE CHAIR

**Below are instructions for obtaining Certificates of Insurance when required by the venue where an event is being held.** Please be aware I DO NOT obtain the certificates of insurance for the local clubs, etc. It is the responsibility of the club, etc. hosting the event to obtain the necessary Certificate of Insurance.

To obtain a Certificate of Insurance go to [www.irises.org](http://www.irises.org). Click on the Member Services link and then click on AIS Insurance and you will be taken to the page that has the instructions for obtaining the necessary Certificate. The form can either be downloaded and faxed to the number shown or it can be completed electronically and sent via email.

There is a statement that says "Is Certificate Holder requested to be named as an additional insured?" If you only need to show proof of insurance, circle No. If the venue needs to be named as an additional insured, circle Yes.

As always, if there are any problems associated with obtaining the needed Certificate, or if you have any questions in general regarding insurance, please contact me at either 928-282-5867, or <[sammygiz@aol.com](mailto:sammygiz@aol.com)>.

## AIS Membership Campaign

BY ROBERT PRIES AND SUSAN GRIGG,

CO-CHAIRS, AIS PUBLIC RELATIONS & MARKETING COMMITTEE

You have an opportunity to win prizes and help the AIS grow. You or your group can win the new member contest this coming year. The contest period is from the convention to the month before the next convention. Submit the list of names of your new members to the Public Relations and Marketing Committee by April 15, 2015. <[AISpublicrelationsmktg@irises.org](mailto:AISpublicrelationsmktg@irises.org)>

It is easier than ever to get those new members. You can point out the \$25 voucher they will receive when joining.

Many clubs throw in extra Irises for new members at their sales. Sales and shows are great opportunities to find new members. Sign them up then and there.

You can find out all about this new marketing program on the AIS website [www.irises.org](http://www.irises.org) in the News Section.

For ideas on how to promote irises, AIS, and your local affiliate, you can check out the new *AIS Marketing Handbook*, available from any member of the PR and Marketing Committee.

Do you put an information table at your shows and sales to explain the many benefits of AIS membership? 🌸

If you have any questions about this program please contact:

Susan Grigg,  
Public Relations and Marketing  
Committee  
<[irismom@nc.rr.com](mailto:irismom@nc.rr.com)>  
or  
Tom Gormley, Membership Secretary  
<[AISMemsec@irises.org](mailto:AISMemsec@irises.org)>.

## Connect with us!

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 Visit our website [www.irises.org](http://www.irises.org)

 Don't forget the blog!  
<http://theamericanirissociety.blogspot.com/>



# Without advertising, a terrible thing happens...nothing!

## Ad Submission Requirements

To place an ad, please contact the advertising editor. The advertising editor has a list of specifications for digital submissions. We accept only MS Word, .pdf, .jpg or .indd files. Photos must be sent separately from word or InDesign documents. All .jpg files must be high resolution (minimum 1600x1000). Payment is due with ad copy. Issues are published the first month of the quarter. The deadlines for ad submissions are: November 15 (Winter issue), February 15 (Spring issue), May 15 (Summer issue) August 15 (Fall issue).

Send digital ad copy to the editor <aiseditor@irises.org>. Send payment (payable to AIS) to Ron Killingsworth, 10329 Caddo Lake Rd., Mooringsport, LA 71060; 318-996-9969; <retmiagt@gmail.com>

## Shopping Section Advertising

Found in the back of each Bulletin. Placement is roughly alphabetical. Rate is for 4 issues.

All ads, color or black and white are same cost.

|            |                      |         |
|------------|----------------------|---------|
| 2" ad..... | 2.25" w x 2" h ..... | \$60.00 |
| 3" ad..... | 2.25" w x 3" h ..... | \$80.00 |

## Display Advertising

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| 1/2 page vertical, interior page.....     | 3.65" w x 9.875" h ..... | \$200.00 |
| Full page, interior page .....            | 8.5" w x 11" h .....     | \$400.00 |
| 4 consecutive issue discount              |                          |          |
| 1/2 page interior page .....              | \$175.00 each            |          |
| full page interior .....                  | \$350.00 each            |          |

Color Cover:

|                                                       |          |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------|
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| Full page inside front or inside back cover .....     | \$600.00 |
| ½ page outside back cover..... 8.5" w x 11" h .....   | \$300.00 |
| ¾ page outside back cover..... 8.5" w x 9" h.....     | \$600.00 |

## Discount for ad placed in 2 issues within same year

Take out any size and location display advertisement in any issue of IRISES for the normal price as listed and run that same size advertisement in any issue within the same year for 1/2 the price of the original advertisement. (The second advertisement within the same year is 1/2 price—it does not have to be the same advertisement.)



## Aitken's Salmon Creek Garden

*Award winning Irises*  
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JACK WOREL INTRODUCTIONS

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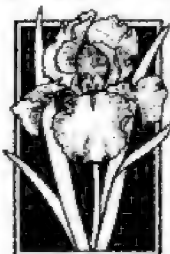
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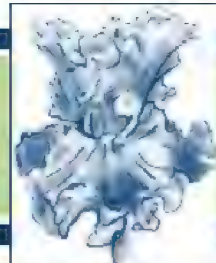


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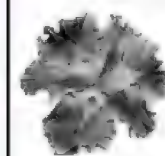
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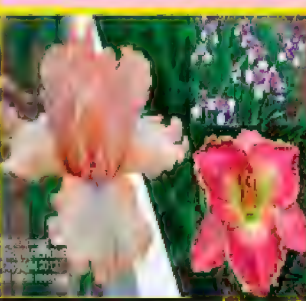
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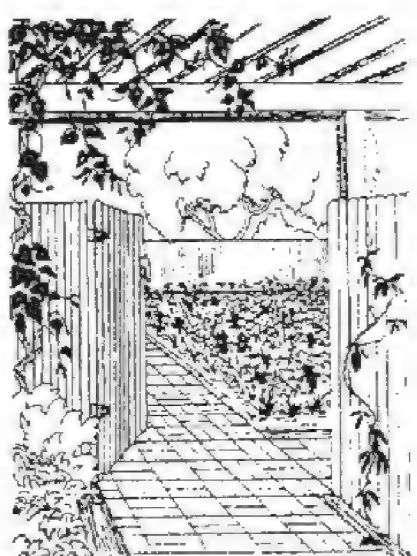
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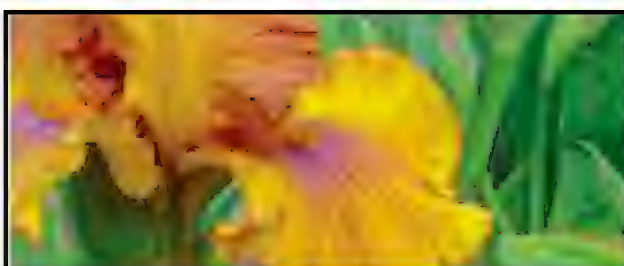
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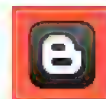


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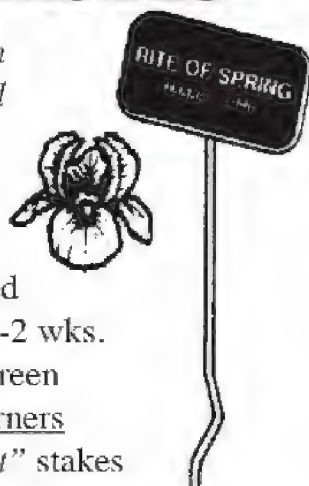


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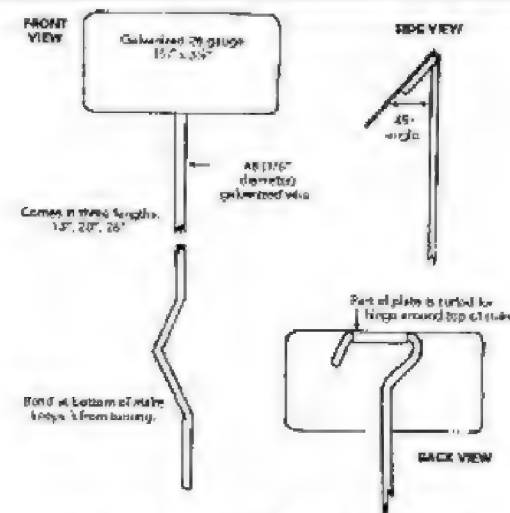
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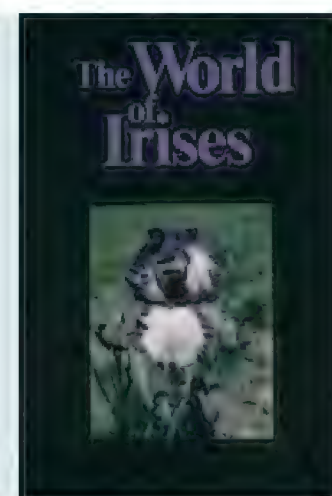
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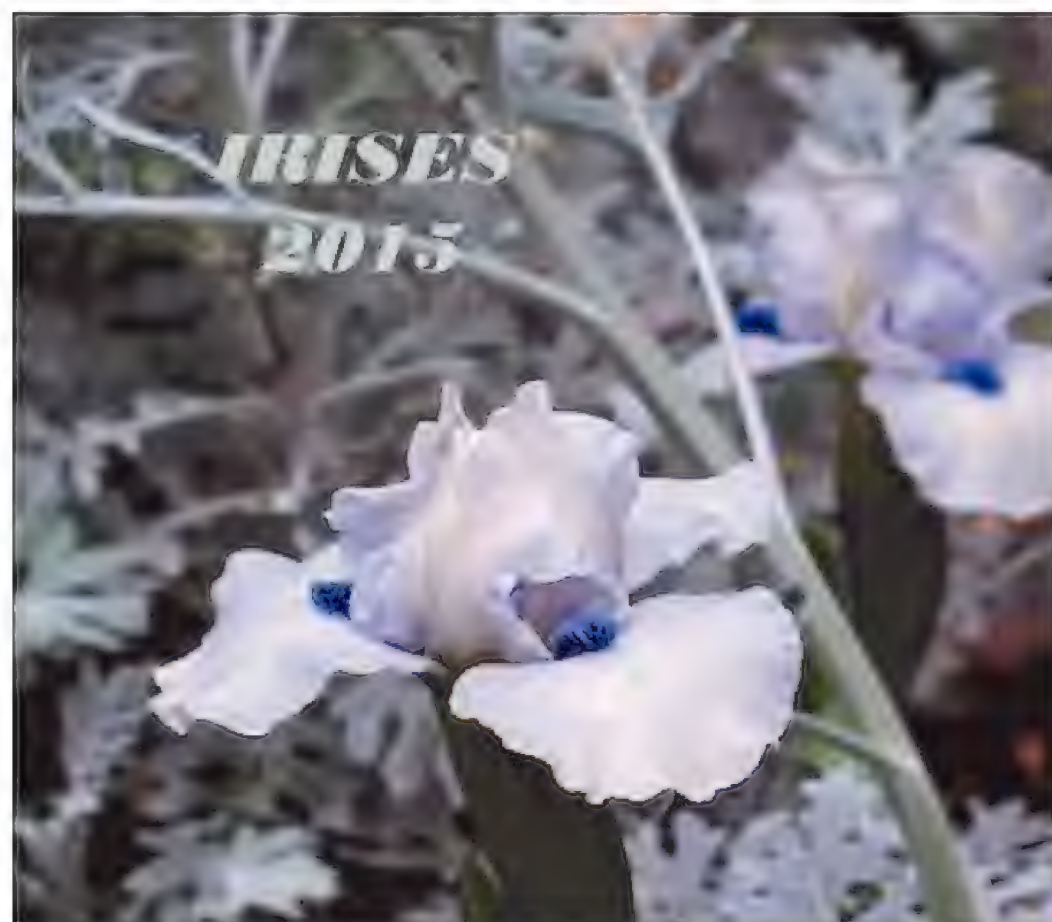
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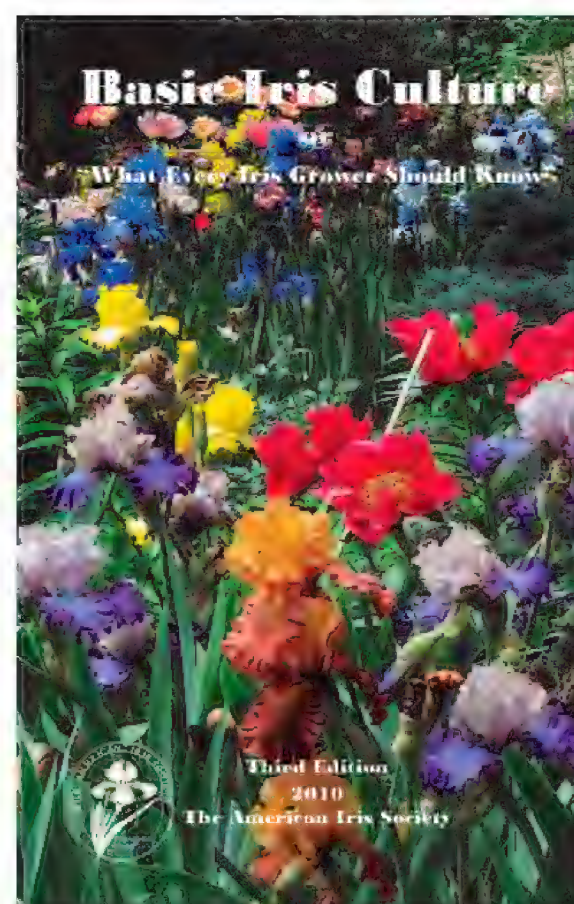
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|                                                                                                  | Single Annual                            | Single Triennial                        | Dual Annual            | Dual Triennial         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Aril Society International                                                                       | \$17.50                                  | 50.50                                   | 21.00 (family)         | 54.00 (family)         |
| <i>Lifetime membership \$150.00</i>                                                              |                                          |                                         |                        |                        |
| Dwarf Iris Society                                                                               | \$8.00 (youth 6.00)                      | 21.00 (youth 12.00)                     | 10.00                  | 24.00                  |
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# Foolish Dreamer

BY KATHY OLDHAM, CALIFORNIA

It's a busy time of year in this gardener's calendar as summer winds down, trying to keep up with managing the results of all the watering, fertilizing, amending and planting lavished on our suburban garden. On the days when it's not too hot, there is always the less exhausting weeding, deadheading and cutting back of enthusiastic vines and climbers. The real crunch of late summer is finding a place to put newly acquired irises. Besides dividing clumps and digging up the failures, the disappointing performers and less than impressive bloomers, there are the new purchases, exchanges from friends, and gift plants from other gardeners to settle into the ground. I always tell myself I have too many, I have nowhere to put them, I don't need any more and they add too much spiky foliage that doesn't fit in with my garden plan. But I can't refuse to grow a plant that shows promise of thriving, and I can always find another spot to tuck one into the landscape.

Fortunately, irises are not what I would call high maintenance plants. They love the sun, and do fine in our heavy clay soil. Most of my collection contains hybrids. They don't need much water, an added benefit during our dry months. But mine reside in a garden that demands a decidedly high level of attention. For that reason, they are not ignored as much as they could be.

In the middle of planting this year's haul, I forgot to tag a 1995 introduction, an older popular iris I purchased this year called 'Panama Hattie'. I searched everywhere, but could not find it. Since I had been cleaning, trimming and planting, I was sure I had probably thrown it away by mistake. How aggravating. My inner voice spoke to me, *It could happen to anyone*. I have probably mistakenly thrown out plants before, but certainly not an iris I had spent good money on. I dumped the large garden waste bin on its side, and hesitated for a moment assessing the state of the contents before I crawled in half-way to search through the cuttings, rocks, weeds, snail bodies and dirt clods. No luck. It was particularly time consuming sorting through everything as I had

finally taken the hard stance of throwing away ugly, poor performing or finicky varieties. I was hoping the tag was still attached; otherwise, I wouldn't recognize it. No luck. Without a bloom, they all looked the same. I didn't give up though and then searched through the regular wheelie trash can just in case some of the garden overflow was in there. No 'Panama Hattie'. I accepted defeat.

A few days later, on the usual morning walk through the garden to inventory what was blooming, I spotted 'Panama Hattie' quite by accident, planted pride of place in front of a Catalina rose in the rose bed, its name written on a leaf with a sharpie. After all the fruitless trouble my searching for it caused, I thought that damn iris better bloom next spring, and put up a bloom stock worthy of a good photograph, a ribbon at the local flower show, or maybe even win a trophy.

I always expect to have every new iris in the ground by the middle of August, but too soon it is September and planting is still not finished. Next week the kids start back to school, and there are a few remaining preparations to do for the new school year. Perhaps finishing the iris planting will just have to wait another week, or two. By then

it may be cooler, and not so busy, I tell myself.

Every year the stunning impact of a tall bearded iris introduction always seems to stand out above all others, and I am compelled to add it to my garden collection. This year the iris is called 'Foolish Dreamer', and it was the first of several irises planted from this season's rhizome orders. It went into the ground with great anticipation, and the hope that it will produce a big flowery show next spring.

Part of the gardening challenge is the gratifying survival of no-hope plants. Sometimes I have rhizomes that don't even have a toe (an immature increase), are all dried up by the time I get to them or generally look unhealthy. I always have to plant the pathetic ones just to see if they beat the odds, and sometimes they do. When I think of my gardening efforts, 'Foolish Dreamer' comes to mind. That particular iris says it all. ❀

Photo: 'Foolish Dreamer' (Keppel 2011) TB by K. Oldham





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Co-Chair: George Boyce <glenara@aol.com>

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Above:

**2014 William Mohr Medal Winner**

'Octave' (Thomas Johnson 2008) by J Graham

Below:

**2014 Clarence G. White Medal**

'Kalifa's Joy' (Annand 2006) by Bob Seaman







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